

***Health Status Indicators
by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity:
Massachusetts, 1997***

**Division of Research and Epidemiology
Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
June 1999**

Demographics

A note about demographics:

Population data are from the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER). The data represent final estimates of 1995 data for four race groups: 1) Black non-Hispanic 2) White non-Hispanic; 3) Asian, Pacific Islander, Native American (non-Hispanic); and Hispanic. Estimates are based on 1990 Census counts and then adjusted for race-specific changes in births, deaths, and migration since 1990.

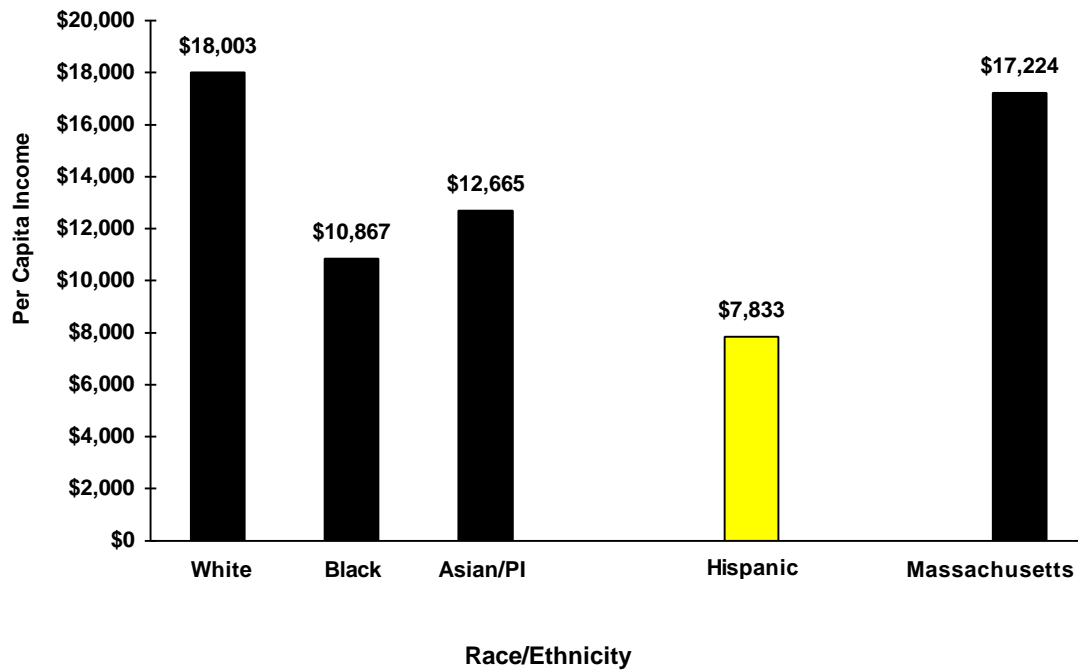
Income and poverty data are from the 1990 Federal Census. Per capita income is the average income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular geographic area. It is derived by dividing the total income for an area by the total population in that area. Population living under Federal poverty level appears in the 1990 U.S. Census calculated for the year 1989. The computation is based on family size, age of family members, and income. For every family size (from one person to nine or more persons), an income threshold is established to determine "below 100% of the poverty line". The average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$12,674 in 1989. For further information, contact MISER (413-545-3460) or the regional Office of the Census Bureau.

**1995 Massachusetts Population Estimates¹ by Age Group,
Gender, Race and Hispanic Ethnicity²**

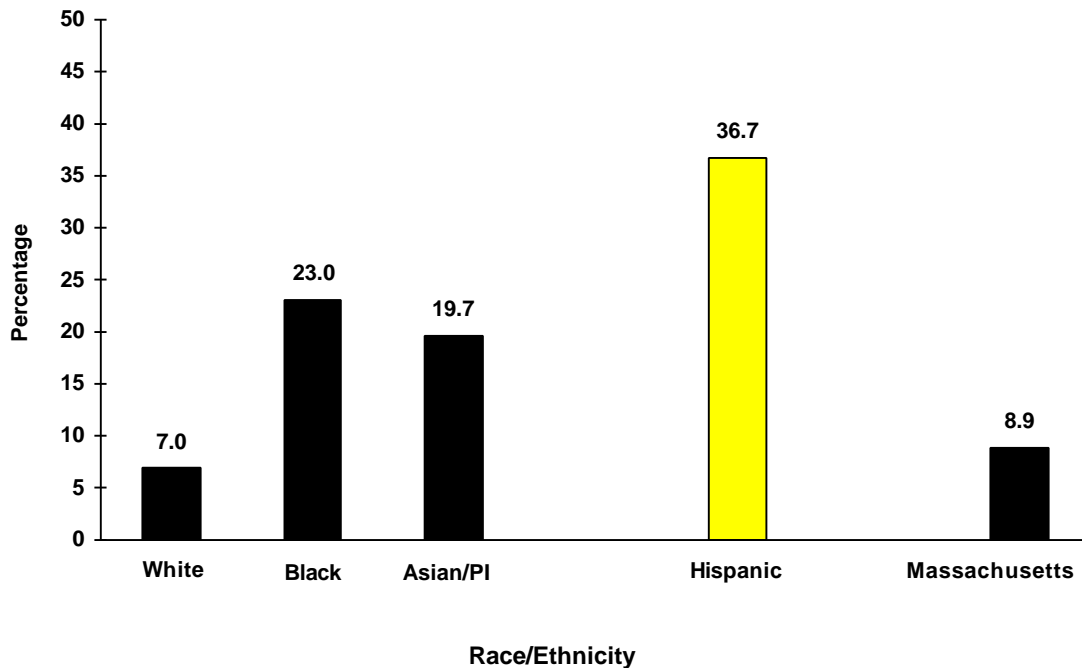
Age	Gender	Total	White Non-Hispanic	Black Non-Hispanic	Asians/PI & Native Americans^{3,4}	Hispanic
0-4	Male	213,448	167,557	15,261	8,170	22,460
	Female	202,293	158,472	14,707	7,676	21,438
	Total	415,741	326,029	29,968	15,846	43,898
5-14	Male	398,278	330,838	22,437	13,647	31,356
	Female	378,834	313,333	22,091	13,289	30,121
	Total	777,112	644,171	44,528	26,936	61,477
15-24	Male	441,495	373,026	23,693	14,979	29,797
	Female	442,843	373,555	24,338	15,675	29,275
	Total	884,338	746,581	48,031	30,654	59,072
25-34	Male	519,133	442,466	25,678	18,227	32,762
	Female	521,266	444,864	26,051	17,873	32,478
	Total	1,040,399	887,330	51,729	36,100	65,240
35-44	Male	487,054	429,367	20,563	15,191	21,933
	Female	502,261	443,055	21,408	15,233	22,565
	Total	989,315	872,422	41,971	30,424	44,498
45-54	Male	360,834	328,104	12,603	8,424	11,703
	Female	381,214	345,679	14,233	8,466	12,836
	Total	742,048	673,783	26,836	16,890	24,539
55-64	Male	222,470	205,136	6,863	4,547	5,924
	Female	245,992	225,710	8,637	4,468	7,177
	Total	468,462	430,846	15,500	9,015	13,101
65-74	Male	193,232	182,480	4,868	2,484	3,400
	Female	247,297	232,826	6,798	3,185	4,488
	Total	440,529	415,306	11,666	5,669	7,888
75-84	Male	101,181	96,577	2,046	1,011	1,547
	Female	174,718	167,105	3,611	1,385	2,617
	Total	275,899	263,682	5,657	2,396	4,164
85+	Male	27,600	26,185	562	257	596
	Female	81,370	78,410	1,422	482	1,056
	Total	108,970	104,595	1,984	739	1,652
All Ages	Male	2,964,725	2,581,736	134,574	86,937	161,478
	Female	3,178,088	2,783,009	143,296	87,732	164,051
	Total	6,142,813	5,364,745	277,870	174,669	325,529

1. 1995 population estimates from the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER) (9/99).
2. Persons of Hispanic ethnicity are NOT included in the other race categories
3. Non-Hispanic Asian/PI and American Indians; PI: Pacific Islanders.
4. The population estimates produced by MISER combine the Asian/PI and Native American race groups although future estimates will disaggregate these two groups. In 1990, 93% of the combined Asian/PI/Native American grouping were Asians and Pacific Islanders. (U.S. Census.)

**Per Capita Income by
Race/Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1990²**



**Percentage of Persons Living Under Federal Poverty Level
by Race/Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1990²**



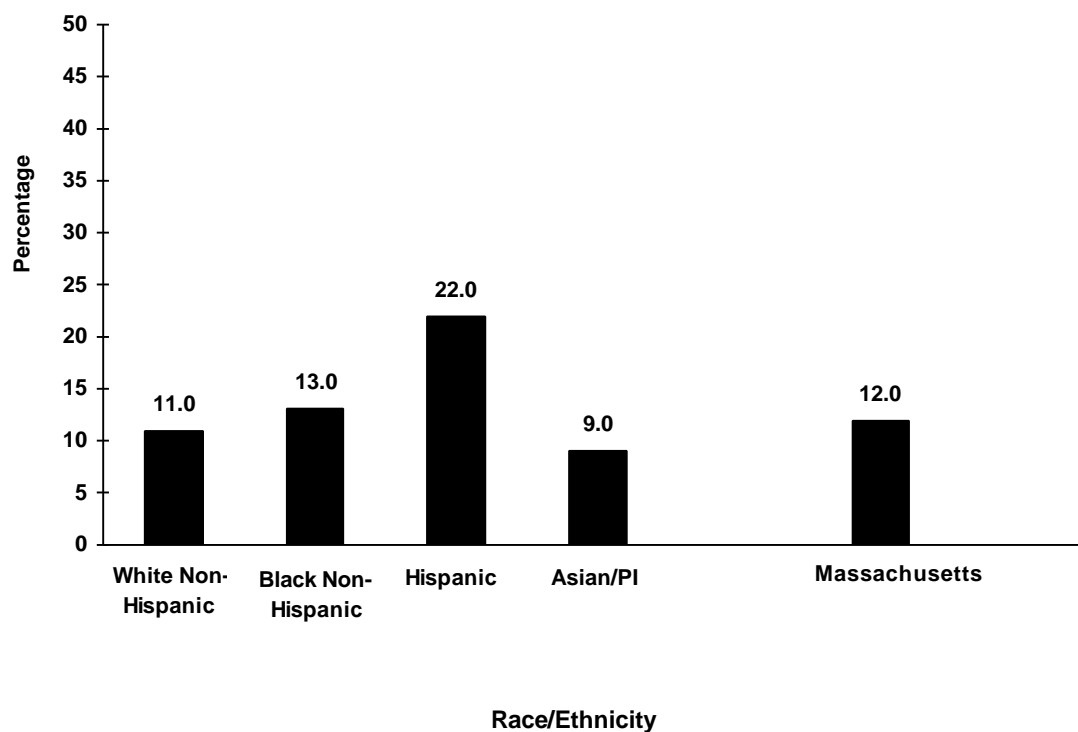
¹ Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also represented in the race categories they select. ² Data Source: U.S. Census

Risk Factors

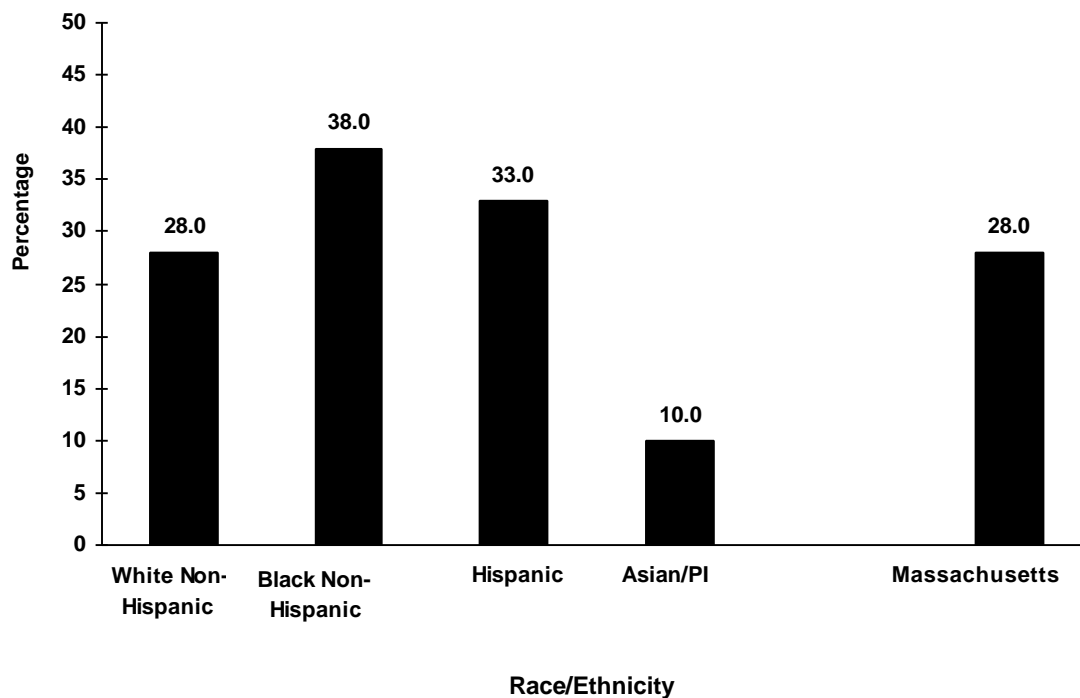
A note about the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

Health behaviors and race/Hispanic ancestry are from the BRFSS, an annual, random, statewide telephone survey of Massachusetts adults 18 years of age and older. Through cooperative agreements with the CDC and state Departments of Health, similar surveys are conducted in all states. The BRFSS collects information about a wide variety of health issues, ranging from health-related behavior and access to medical care, to opinions on health-related policy issues. The same questions are not asked every year. The survey has been conducted in both English and Spanish and will be also conducted in Chinese beginning in 1999. The percentages presented are weighted to the MA total population. For further information, contact the Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation, Chronic Disease Surveillance Program (617-624-5636).

Percentage of Persons Reporting Fair/Poor Health Status¹ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²

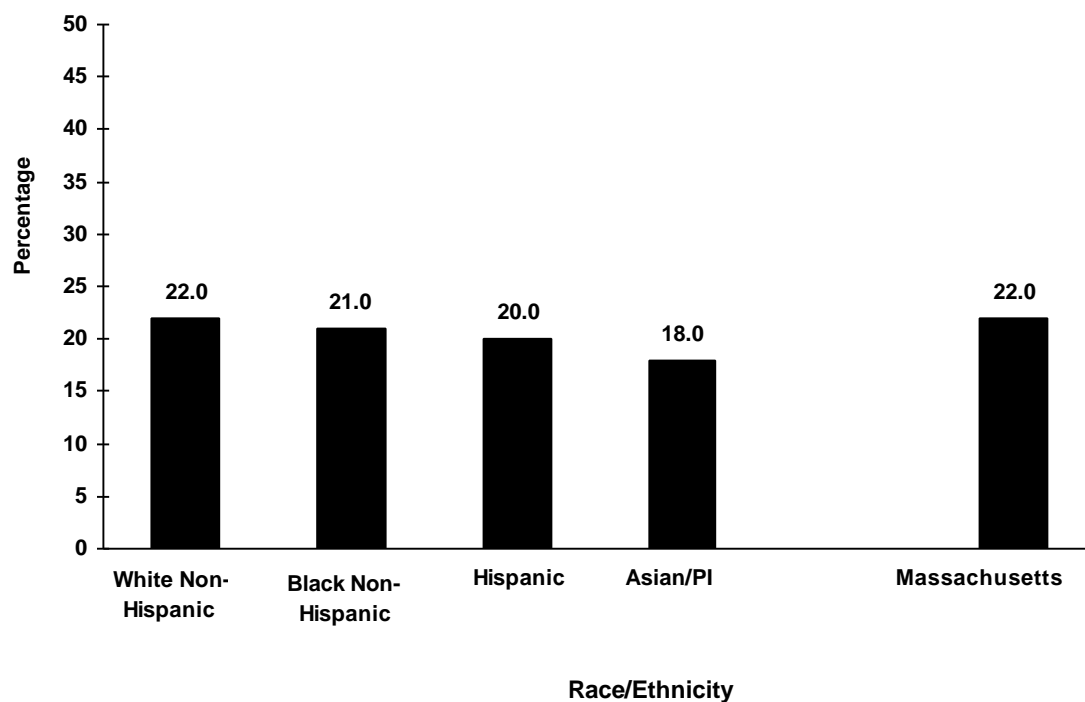


Percentage of Persons Reporting Overweight³ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²

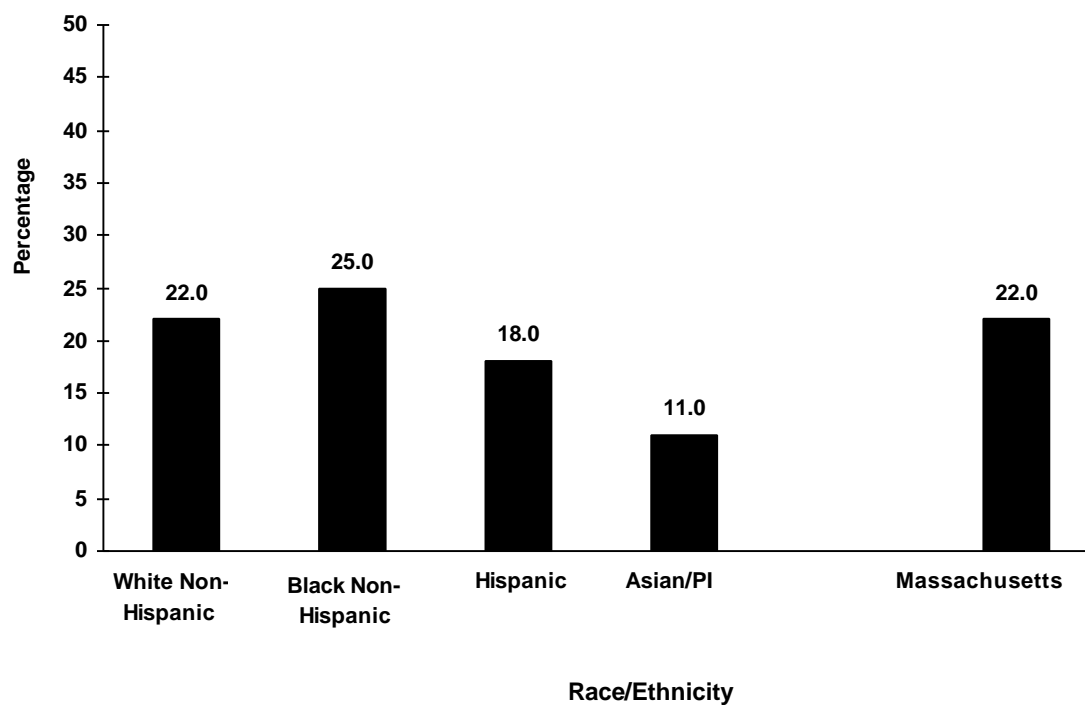


¹ Reported having "poor/fair" health status. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1994-1998" equals 5 years of aggregated data. ³ Body Mass Index (computed from self-reported height and weight) of at least 27.8 kg/m² (men) or 27.3 kg/m² (women).

**Percentage of Persons Currently Smoking¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²**

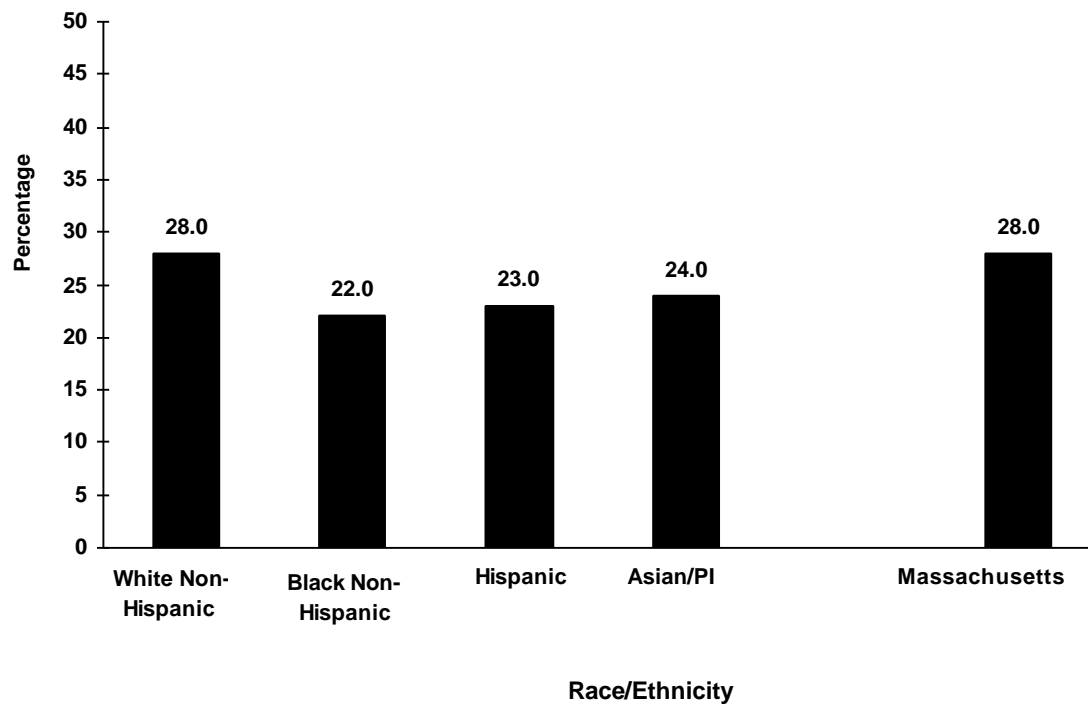


**Percentage of Persons Reporting High Blood Pressure³ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995 and 1997²**

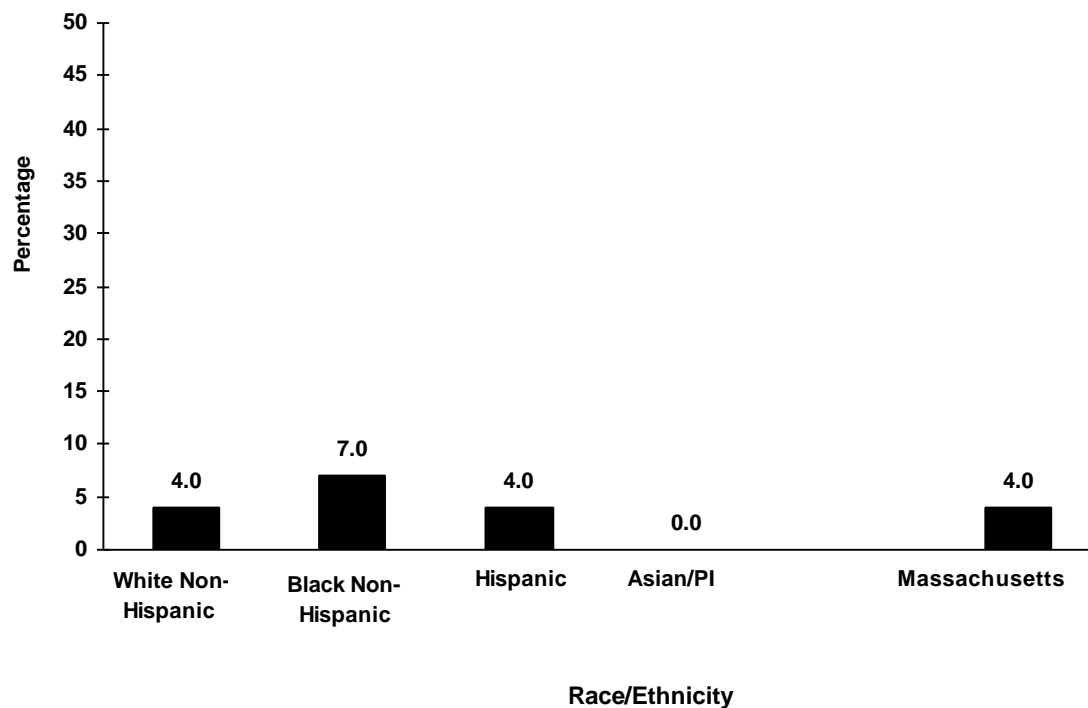


¹ Reported having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in lifetime and is currently smoking now. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1994-1998" equals 5 years of aggregated data; "1995 and 1997" equals 2 years of aggregated data. ³ Reported having been told by a doctor or other health professional that blood pressure was high.

Percentage of Persons Reporting High Cholesterol¹ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995 and 1997²

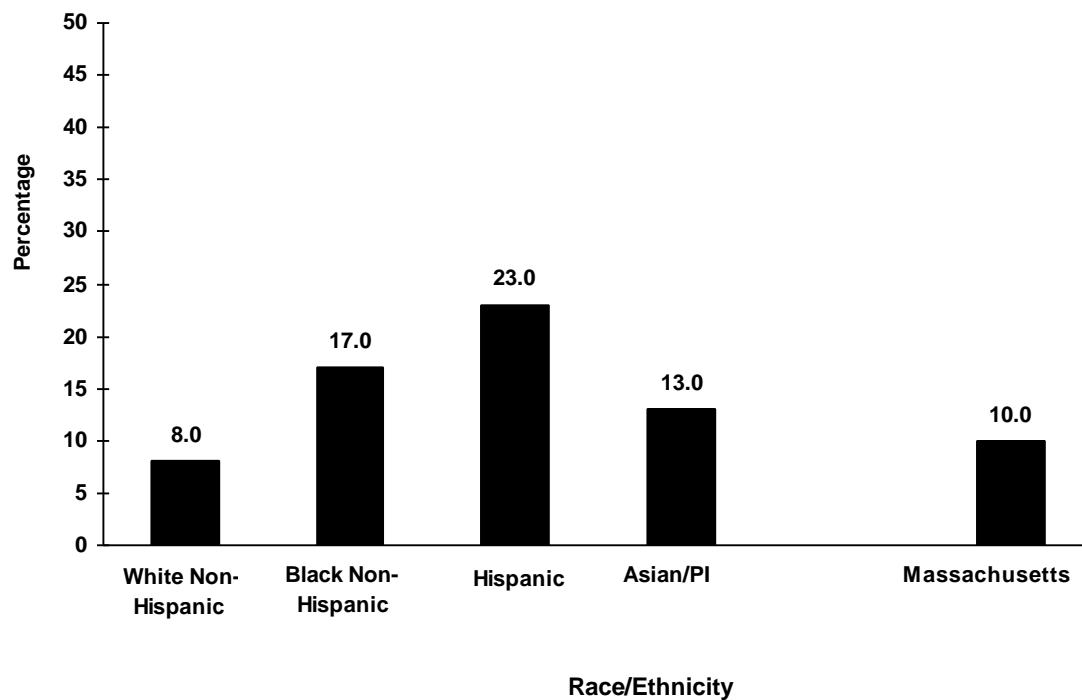


Percentage of Persons Reporting Diabetes³ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²

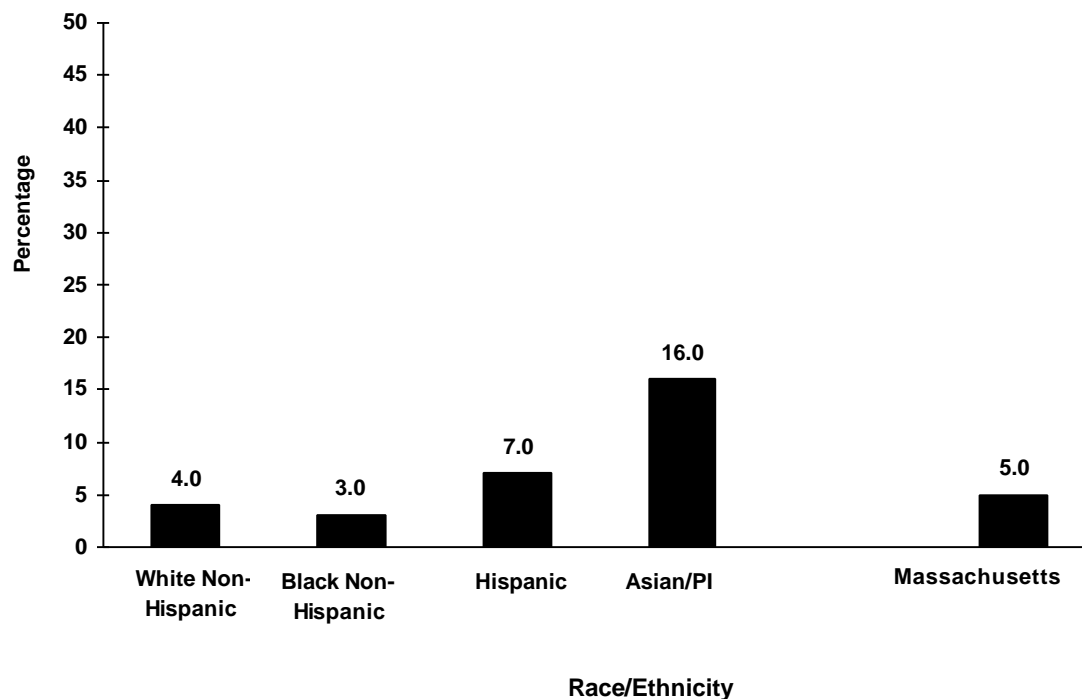


¹ Reported having been told by a doctor or other health professional that blood cholesterol was high. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1995 and 1997" equals 2 years of aggregated data; "1994-1998" equals 5 years of aggregated data. ³ Have been told by a doctor have diabetes

Percentage of Persons Reporting No Health Insurance¹ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²

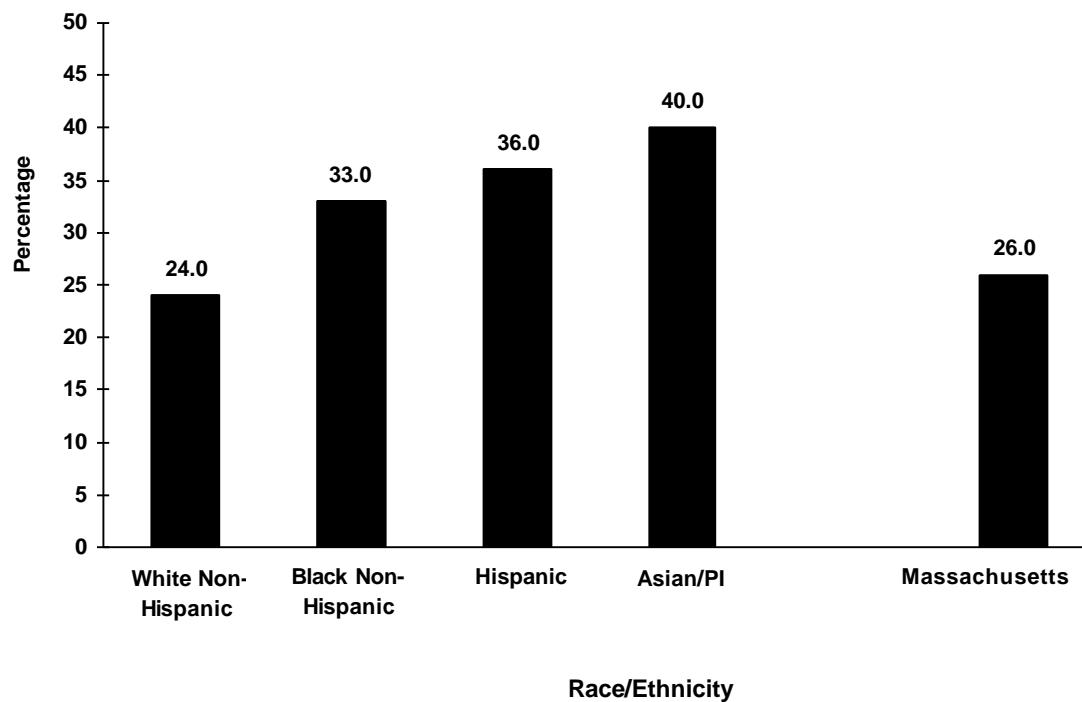


Percentage of Persons Reporting Unchecked Blood Pressure³ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995 and 1997²

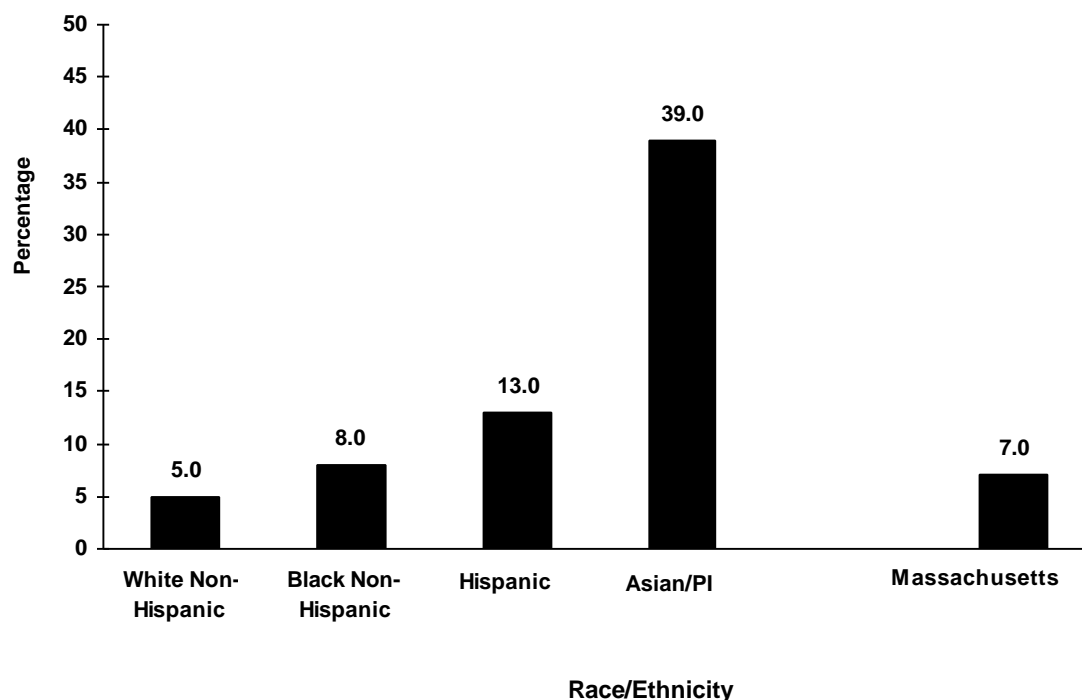


¹ Reported not having any kind of health insurance (including government plans). ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1994-1998" equals 5 years of aggregated data; "1995 and 1997" equals 2 years of aggregated data. ³ Reported not having had blood pressure checked by a doctor, nurse, or other health professional within the past 2 years.

Percentage of Persons Reporting Unchecked Cholesterol¹ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995 and 1997²

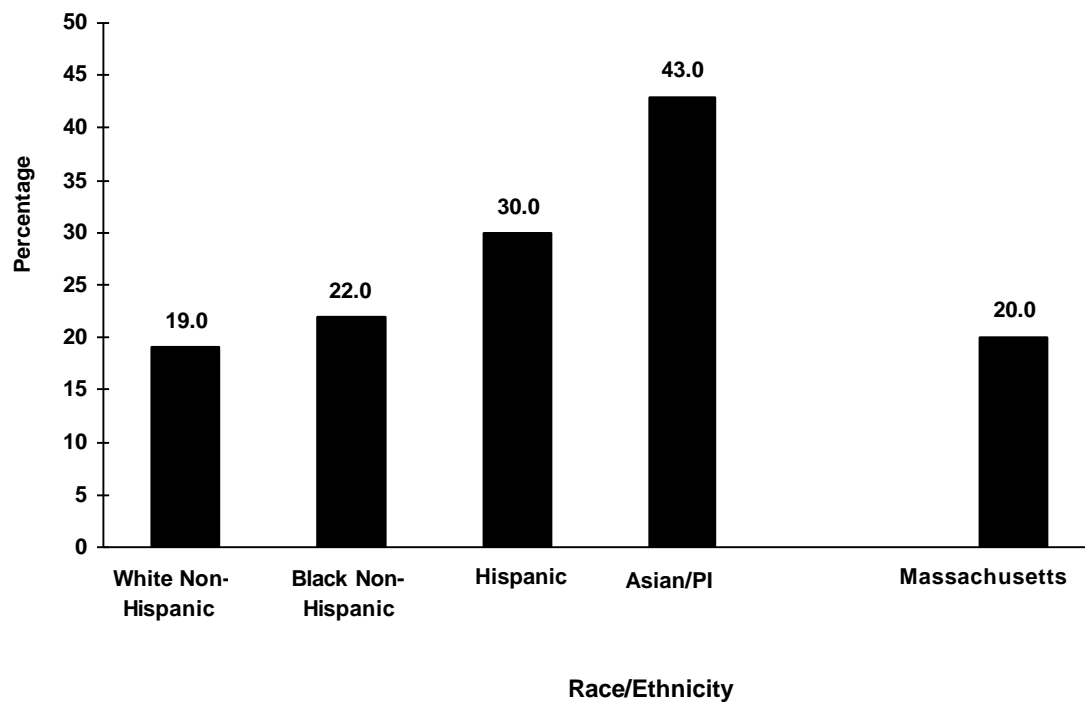


Percentage of Women 18+ Reporting Never Having a Pap Smear³ by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994-1998²

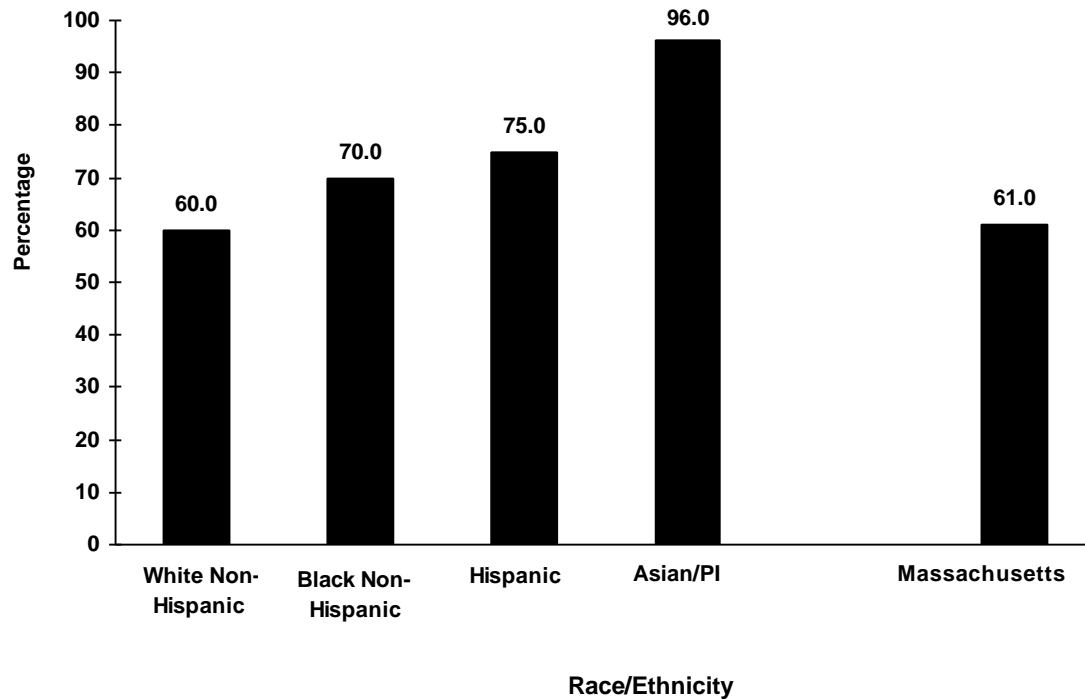


¹ Reported not having blood cholesterol checked within the past 5 years. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); “1995 and 1997” equals 2 years of aggregated data; “1994-1998” equals 5 years of aggregated data. ³ Reported never having had a Pap test and had an intact uterine cervix.

**Percentage of Persons 40+ Reporting Never Having Had a Digital Rectal Examination¹
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995²**

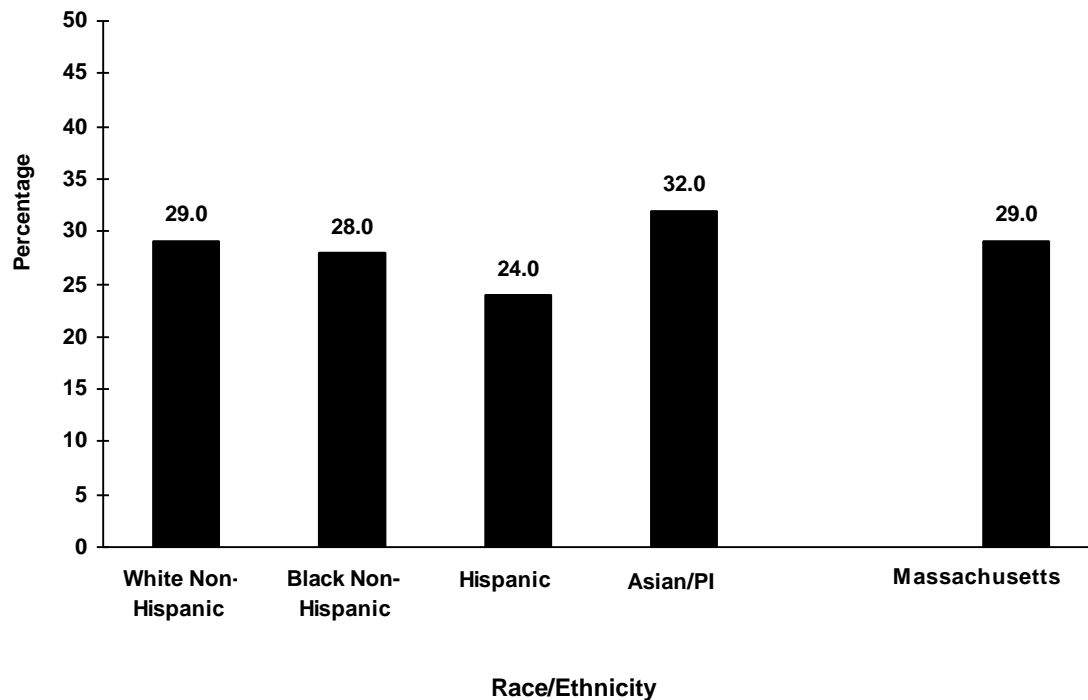


**Percentage of Persons 50+ Reporting Never Having Had a Sigmoidoscopy³
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1995 and 1997²**

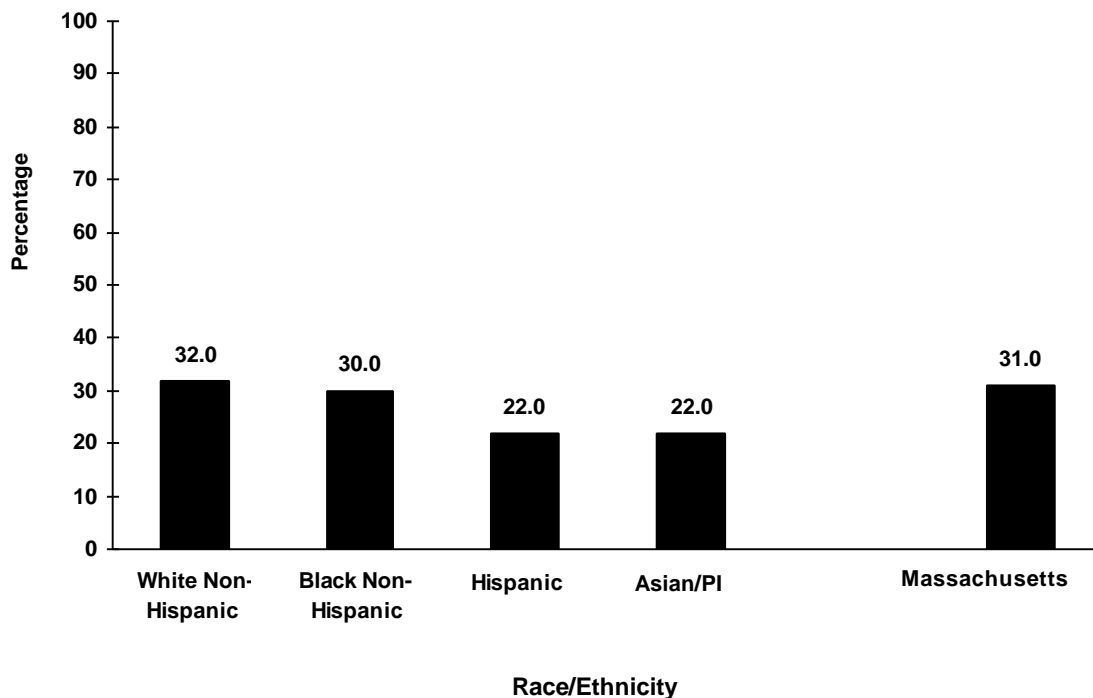


¹ Having had no digital rectal examination among respondents 40 years and older. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1995 and 1997" equals 2 years of aggregated data. ³ Having had no sigmoidoscopy among respondents 50 years and older.

**Percentage of Persons Reporting Consuming 5 or More Servings of Fruits and Vegetables Daily¹
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994, 1996 and 1998²**

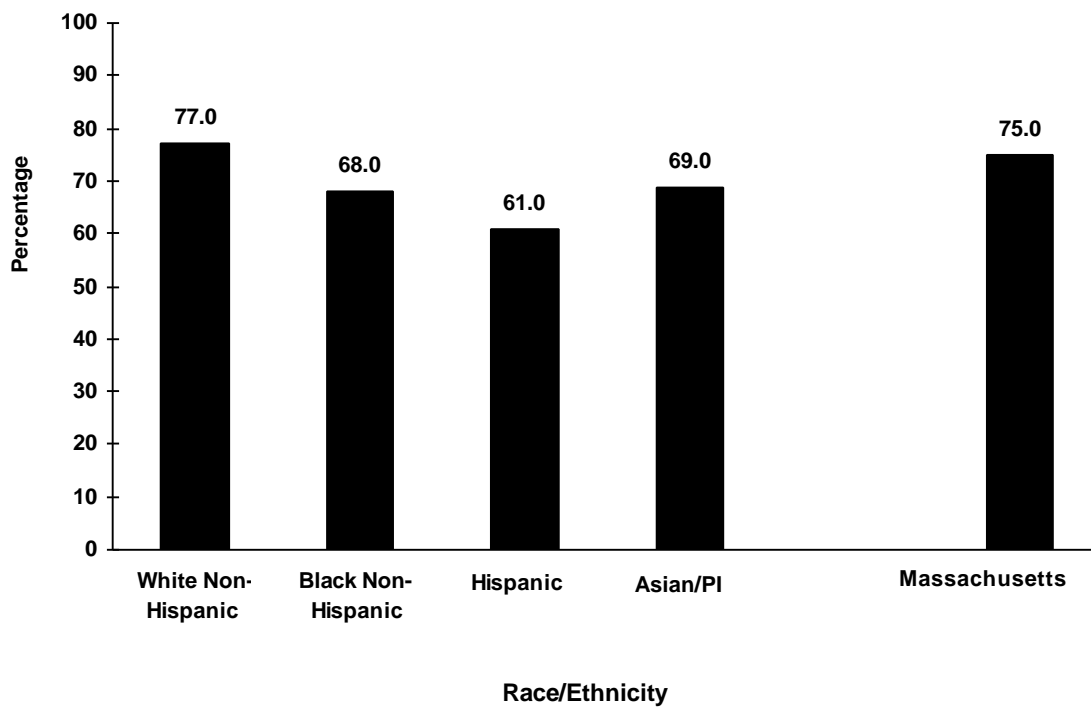


**Percentage of Persons Participating in Regular Physical Activity³ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994, 1996 and 1998²**



¹ The Surgeon General has recommended that adults consume 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1994, 1996 and 1998" equals 3 years of aggregated data. ³ Reported having participated in regular physical activity defined as 30 minutes of moderate activity 5 times per week, or 20 minutes of vigorous exercise 3 times per week.

**Percentage of Persons Participating in Leisure Time Physical Activity¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1994, 1996 and 1998²**



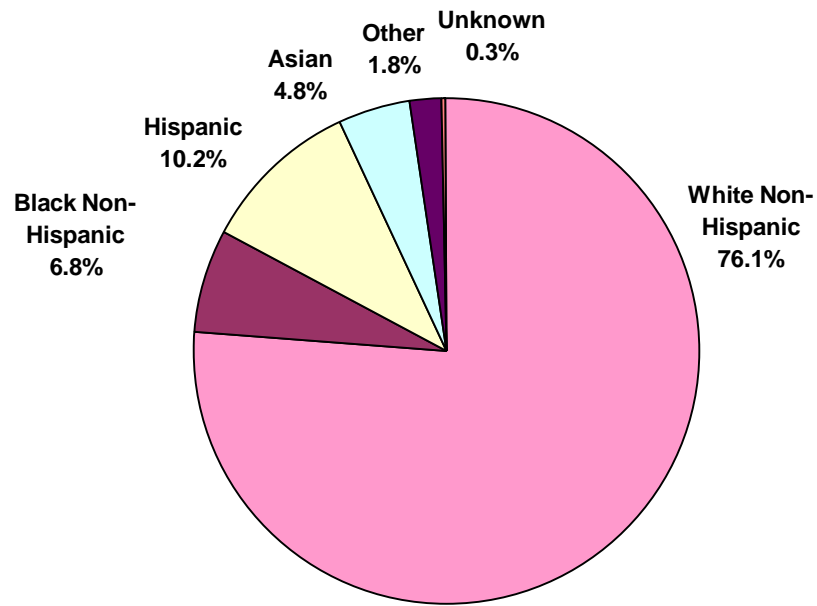
¹Reported having participated in some leisure time physical activity in the previous month. ² Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS); "1994, 1996 and 1998" equals 3 years of aggregated data.

Births

A note about birth data

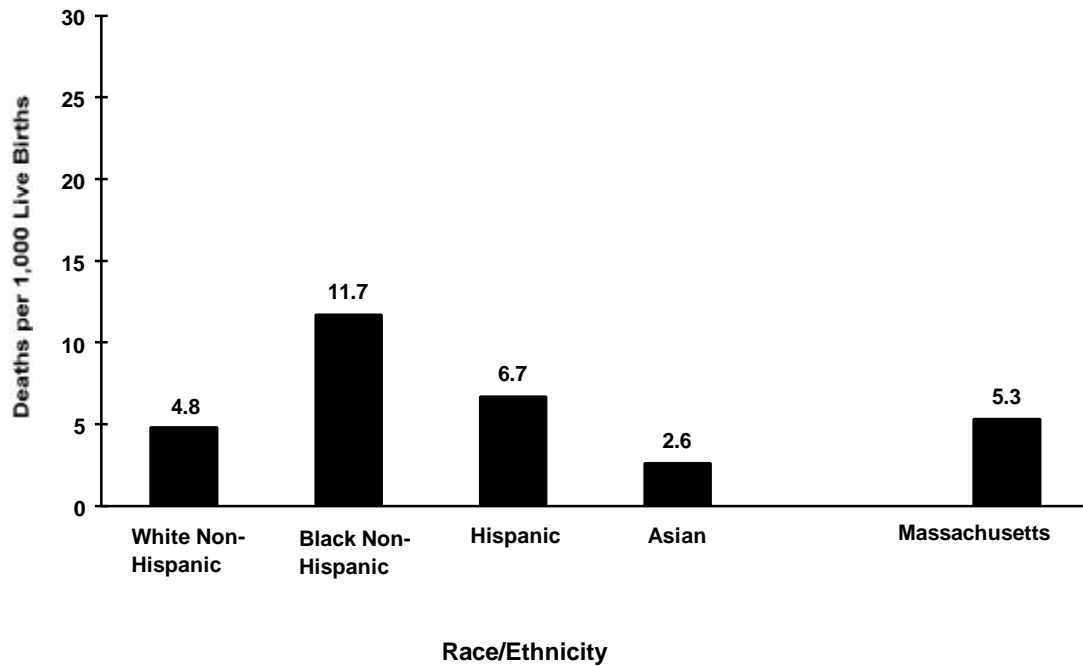
Perinatal characteristics and race and ethnicity data are from the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics annual birth data file for 1997. Data are derived from birth certificates. Medical information such as birthweight and prematurity are based on hospital supplied information while demographic and behavior data such as smoking behavior and race and ethnicity are supplied by the woman who gave birth. Women self identified their race from a choice of five categories: White, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian, and Other. Hispanic ancestry is self-identified by selecting any one of nine Hispanic ancestry categories (Puerto Rican, Dominican, Mexican, Cuban, Colombian, Salvadoran, other Central American, South American, and other Hispanic) from a list of 38 possible ancestry/ethnicity groups. For further information, contact the Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation, Division of Research and Epidemiology (617-624-5640).

**Distribution of Births by Maternal
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997¹**

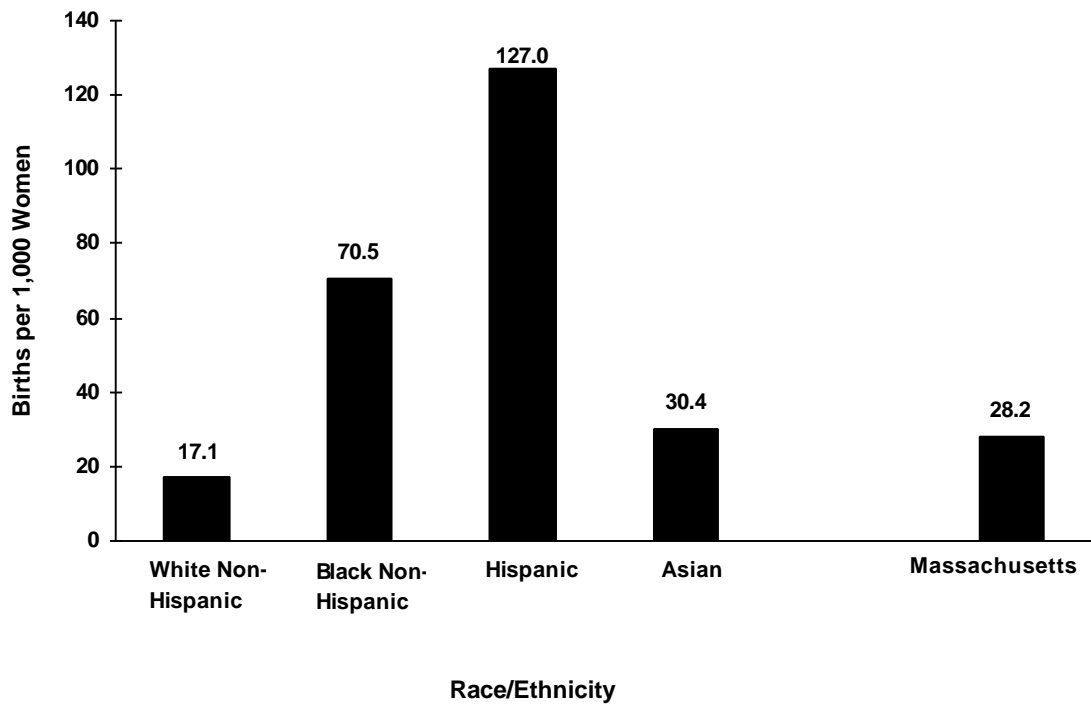


¹ Data Source: Birth Certificates.

**Infant Mortality Rate¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997²**

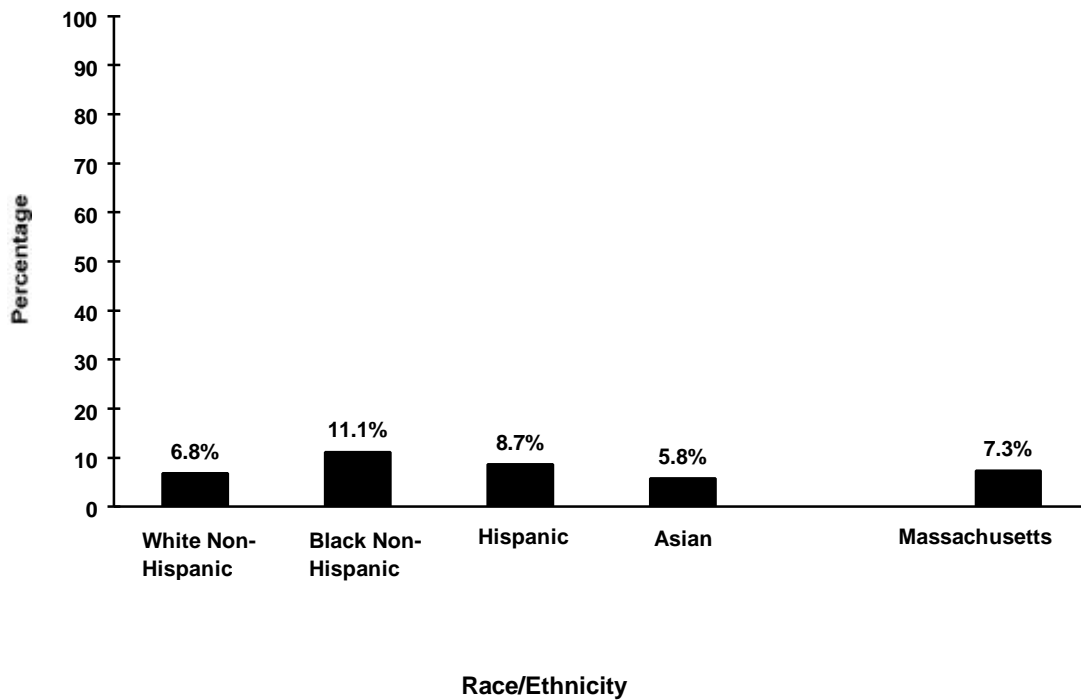


**Rate of Teen Births³
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997²**

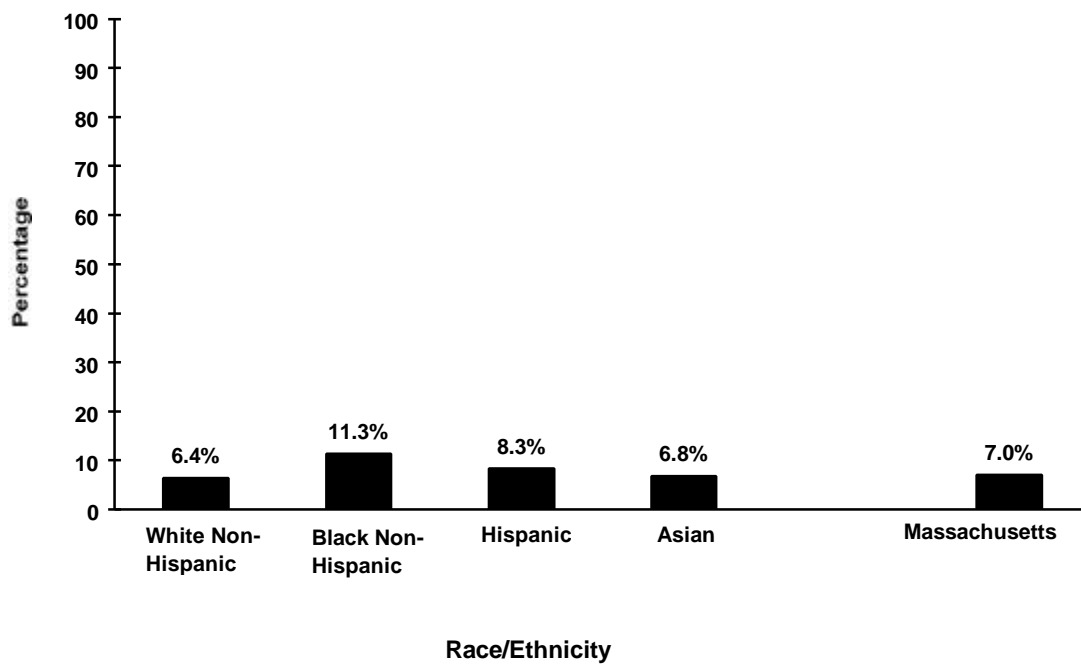


¹ Rates expressed per 1,000 live births to women of a given race/ethnicity. ² Data Source: Birth Certificates. ³ Rates expressed per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years old of a given race/ethnicity.

**Percentage of Premature Births¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997^{2, 3}**

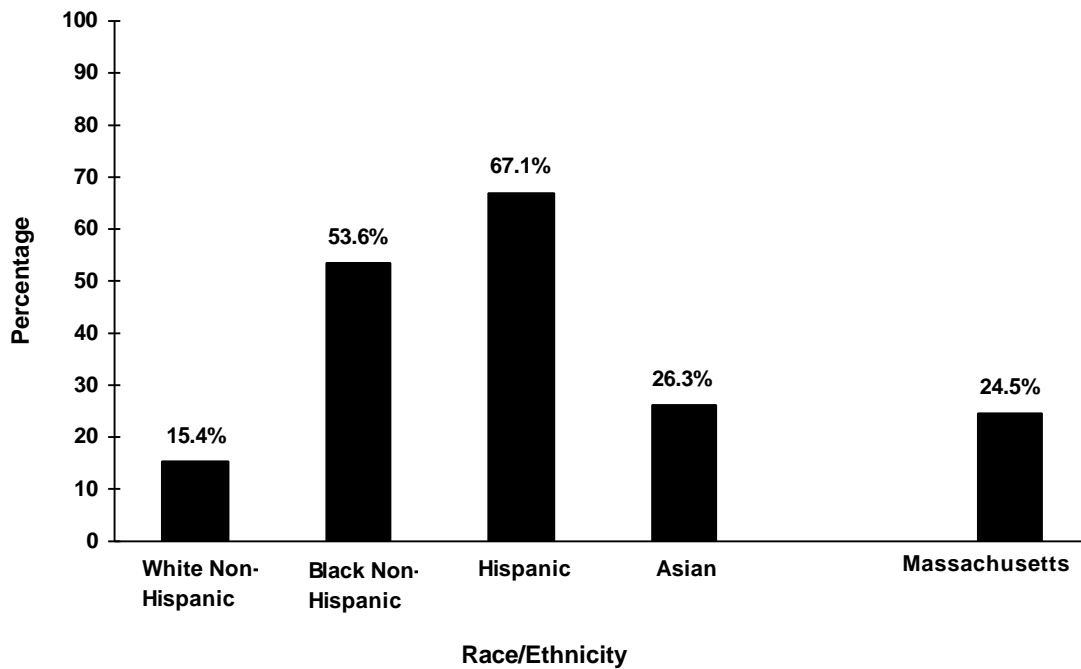


**Percentage of Low Birth Weight Births⁴
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997^{2, 3}**

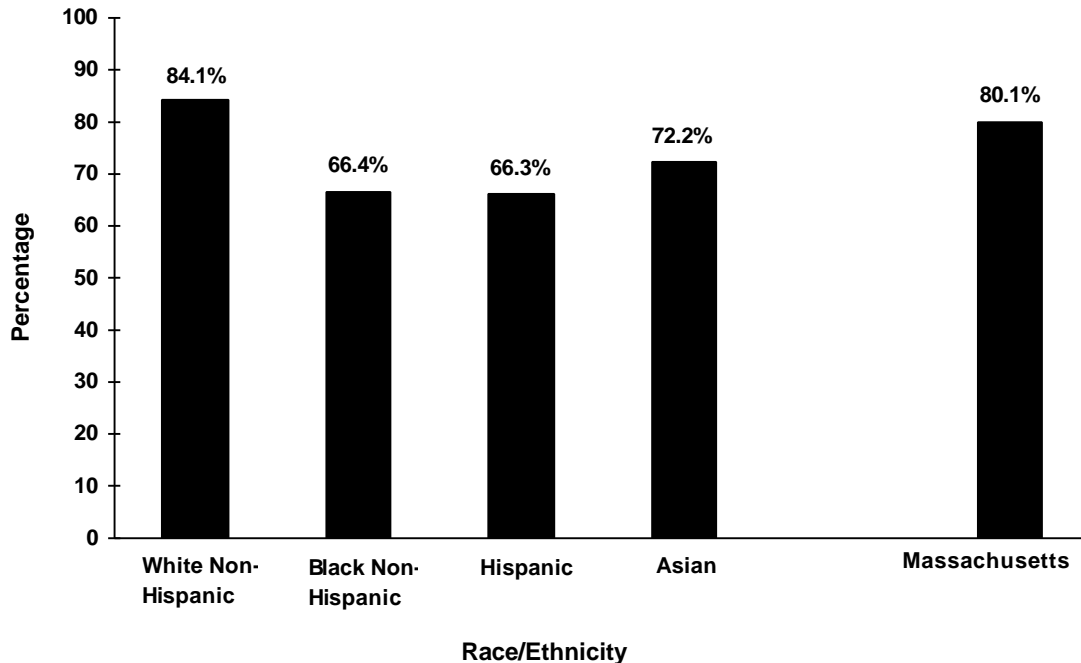


¹ Prematurity defined as less than 37 weeks gestation. ² Denominators: births to all women of a given maternal race/ethnicity. ³ Data Source: Birth Certificates. ⁴ Low birth weight defined as less than 2,500 grams.

**Percentage of Births with Publicly-financed Prenatal Care¹
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997^{2,3}**



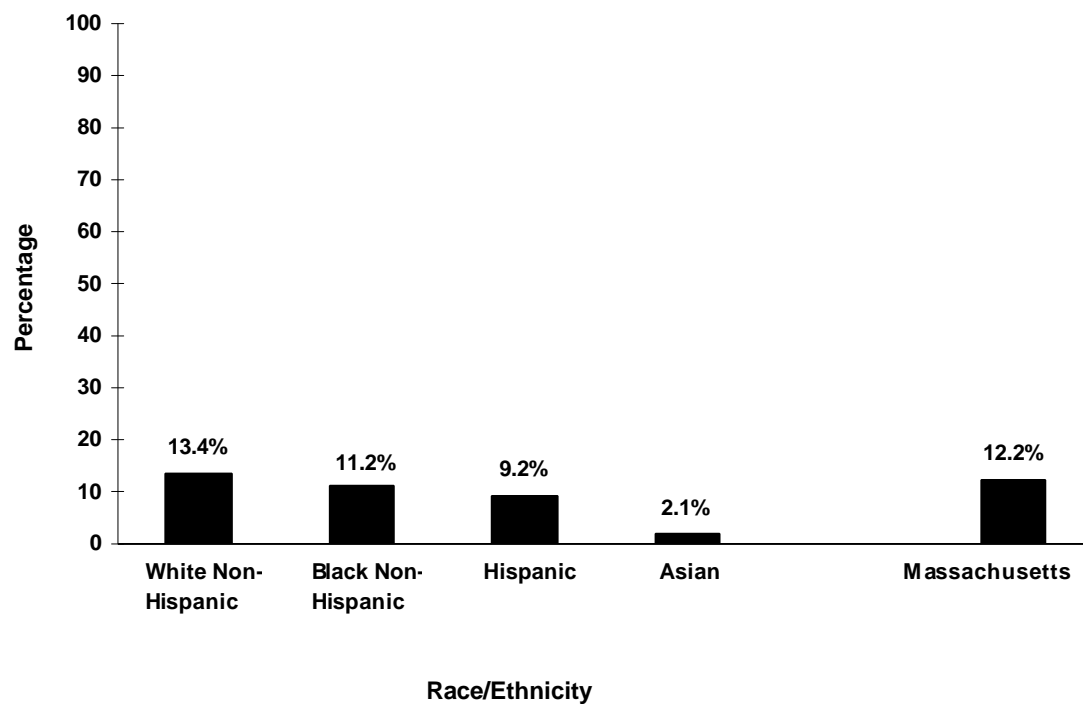
**Percentage of Births with Adequate Prenatal Care⁴
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997^{2,3}**



¹ Publicly financed programs include Medicaid, Medicare, Healthy Start, free care, and other government sources. ² Denominators: births to all women of a given race/ethnicity. Unknown values for prenatal care adequacy, trimester prenatal care start, or prenatal care payment source are excluded.

³ Data Source: Birth Certificates. ⁴ The Index of Adequacy of Prenatal Care (based on the Kessner Index) has five categories (adequate, intermediate, inadequate, no prenatal care and unknown), based on the trimester in which prenatal care began and the number of prenatal visits.

**Percentage of Births to Mothers Who Smoked During Pregnancy
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997^{1, 2}**



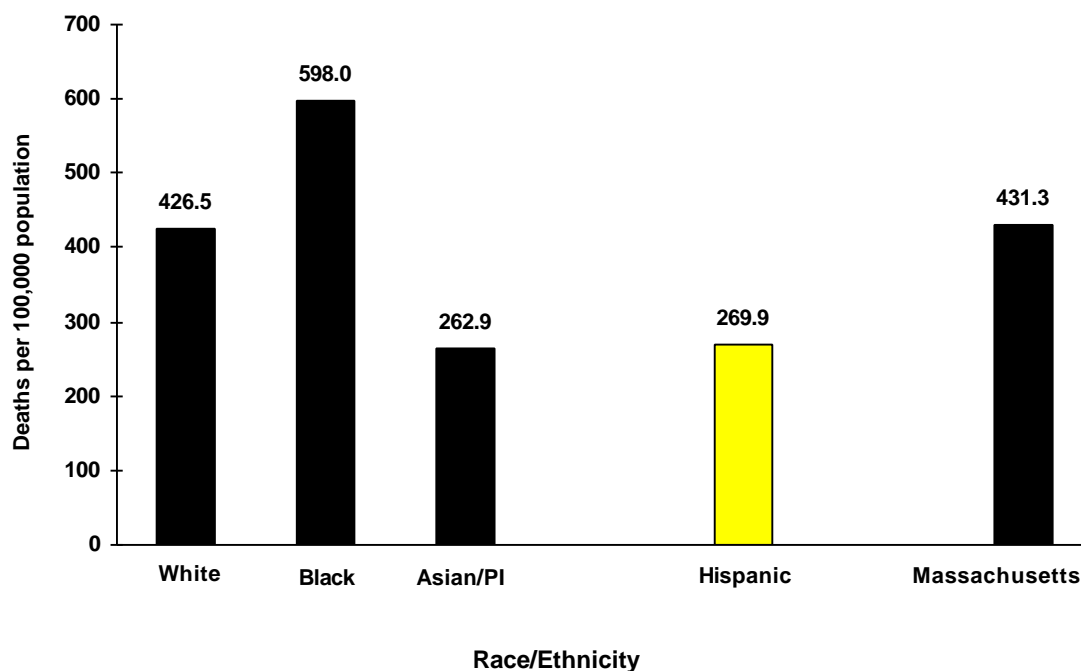
¹ Denominators: births to all women of a given race/ethnicity. ² Data Source: Birth Certificates.

Deaths

Mortality data

Number of deaths by cause for race and Hispanic ancestry is generated from Death Certificates by the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics. The underlying cause of death is determined by standardized algorithm generated by the National Center for Health Statistics and used throughout the United States. Race and Hispanic ancestry are based on responses to two questions: one used to identify race and the other to ascertain whether the decedent was of Hispanic ancestry. The next-of-kin, the funeral director, or other information at the time of the completion of the death certificate answers these questions. Data are for Massachusetts resident deaths. For further information, contact the Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation, Division of Research and Epidemiology (617-624-5640).

**Age-adjusted Mortality Rates by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**



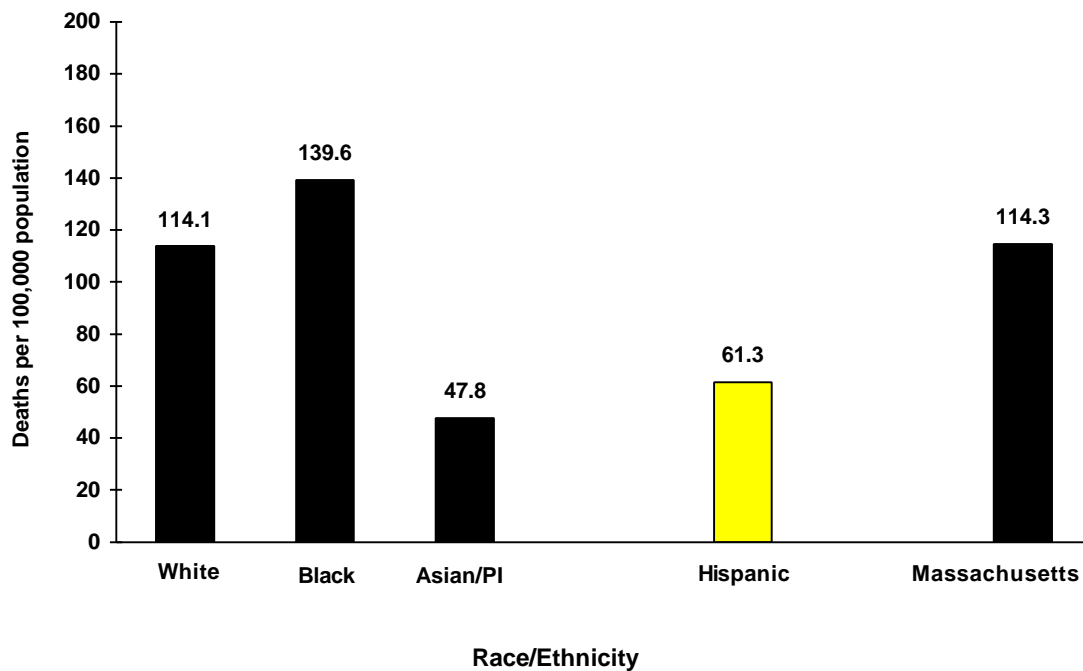
**Ranking of Leading Causes of Death
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

Rank	White (n=52,146)	Black (n=2,033)	Asian (n=403)	Hispanic (n=749)	Total (n=54,634)
1	Heart Disease	Cancer	Cancer	Heart Disease	Heart Disease
2	Cancer	Heart Disease	Heart Disease	Cancer	Cancer
3	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	AIDS/HIV-related	Stroke
4	Pneumonia/Influenza	Diabetes	Pneumonia/Influenza	Diabetes	Pneumonia/Influenza
5	COPD ³	AIDS/HIV-related	Motor Vehicle	Perinatal Conditions	COPD ³
6	Diabetes	Pneumonia/Influenza	Diabetes	Stroke	Diabetes
7	Nephritis	Nephritis	Unintentional Injury ³	Pneumonia/Influenza	Nephritis
8	Unintentional Injury ³	Septicemia	Suicide	Homicide	Unintentional Injury ³
9	Septicemia	COPD ⁴	COPD ⁴	Unintentional Injury ³	Septicemia
10	Other arterial disease	Homicide	Septicemia	Chronic liver disease	Other arterial disease

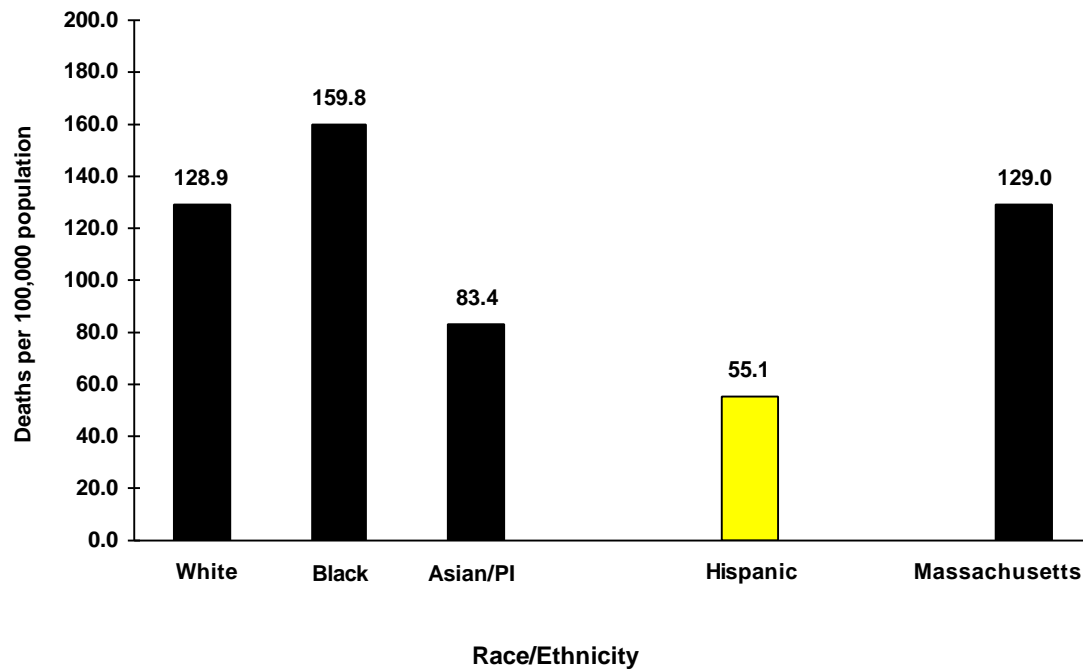
¹Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ²Data Source: Death Certificates.

³Excluding motor vehicle crashes. ⁴COPD Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. ("n" refers to the total number of deaths in 1997 for each race/ethnic group.)

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Heart Disease
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

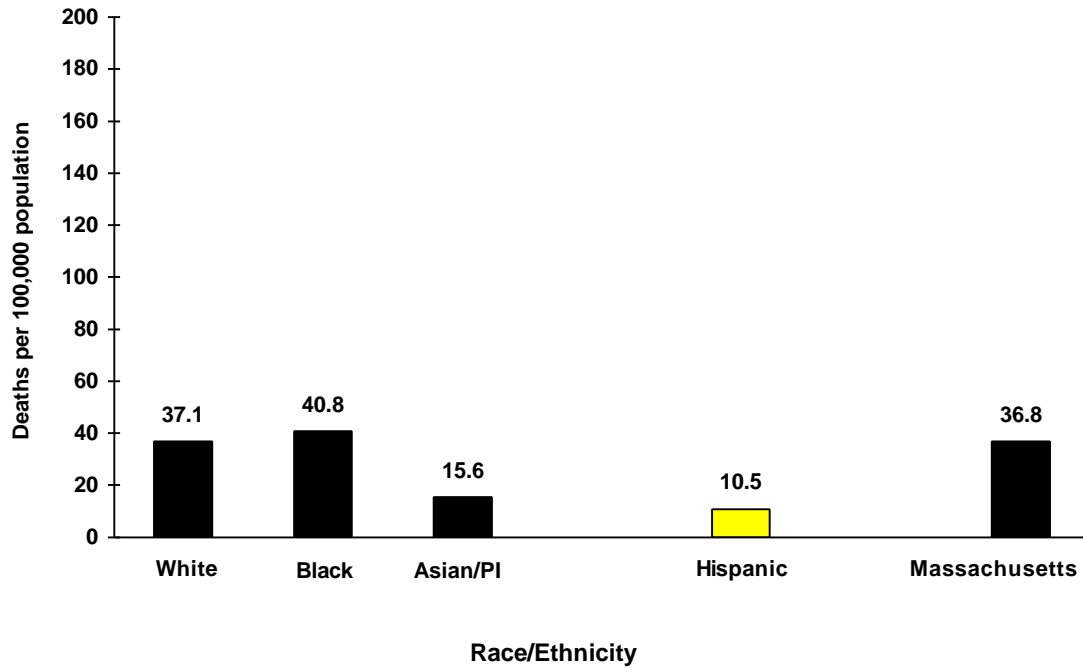


**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Cancer
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

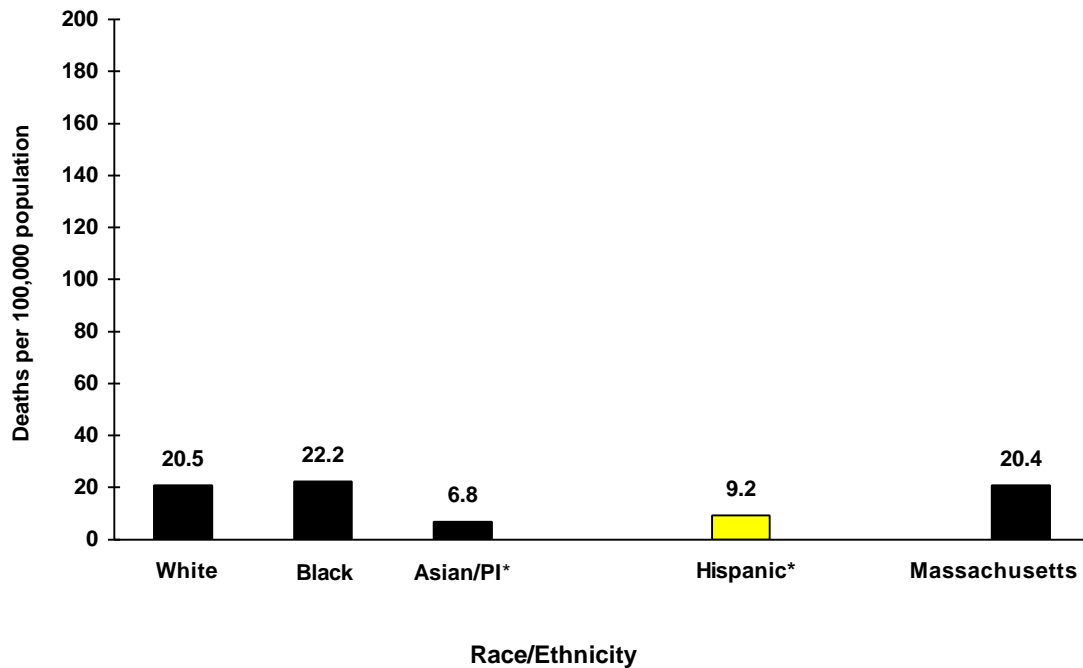


¹Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ²Data Source: Death Certificates

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Lung Cancer
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

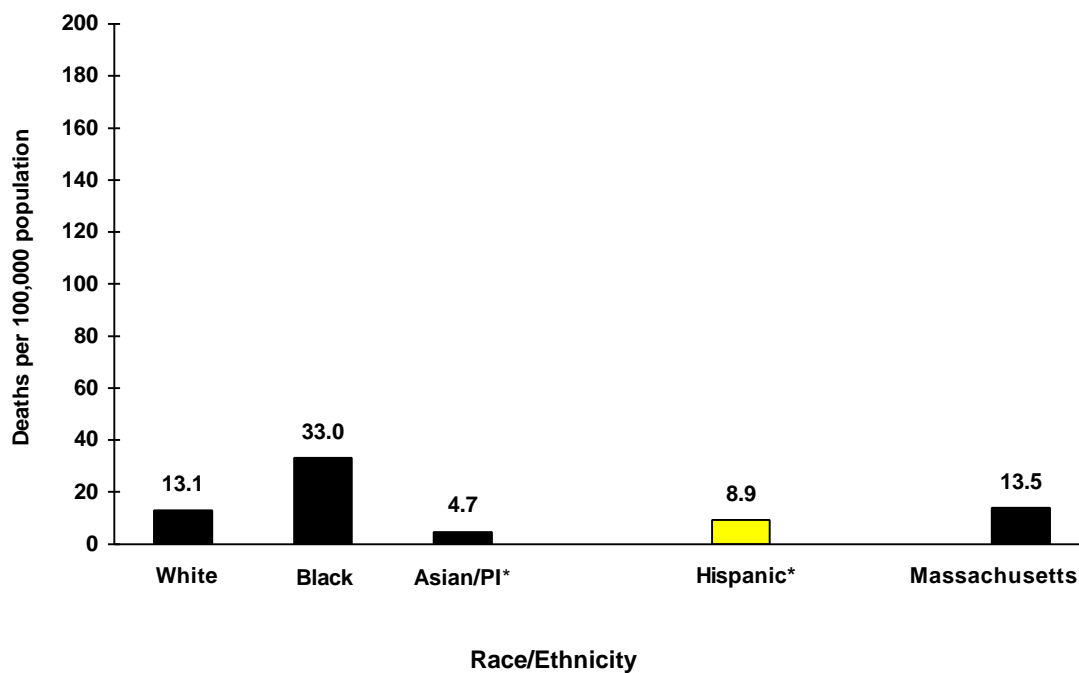


**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Breast Cancer (Female)
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

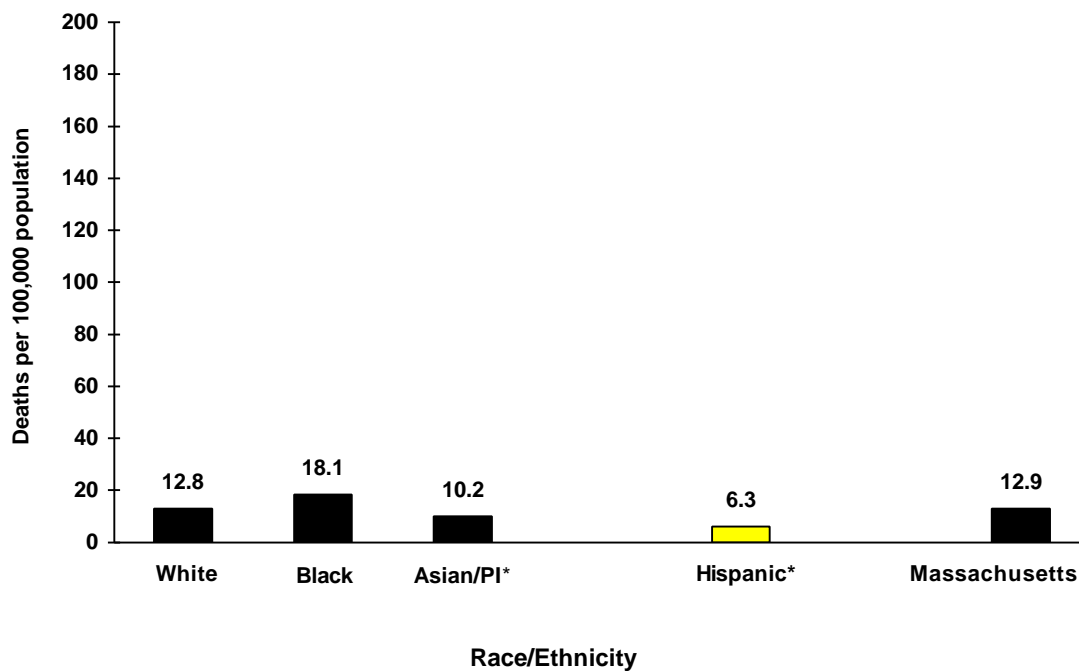


¹ Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ² Data Source: Death Certificates. * These data are not stable due to small numbers of events.

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Prostate Cancer
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

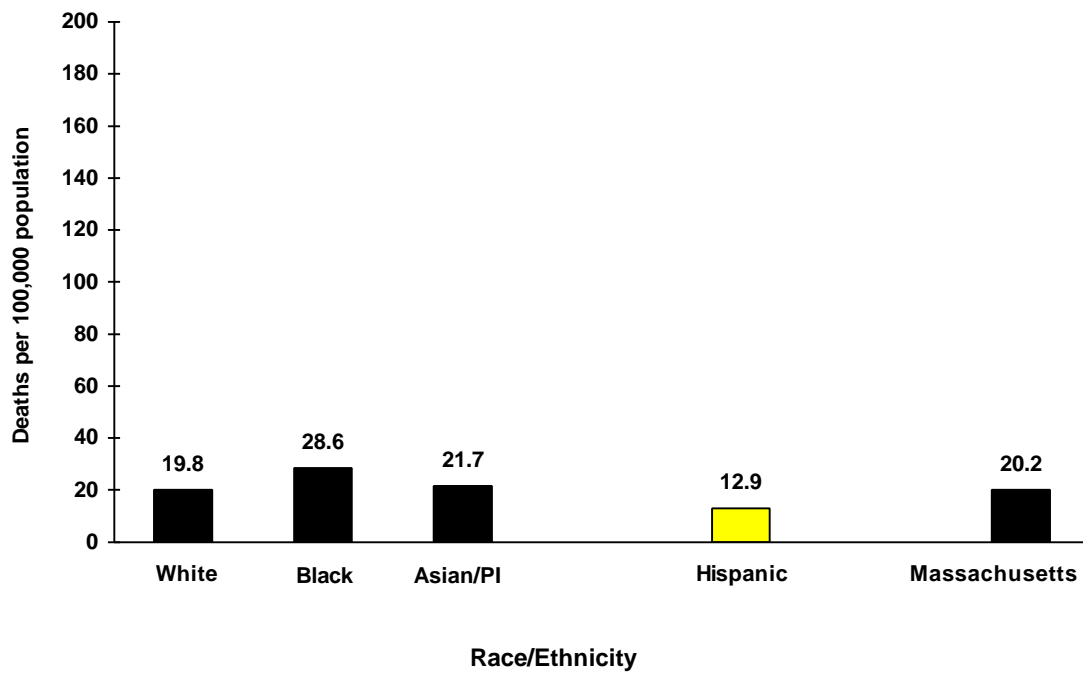


**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Colon Cancer
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

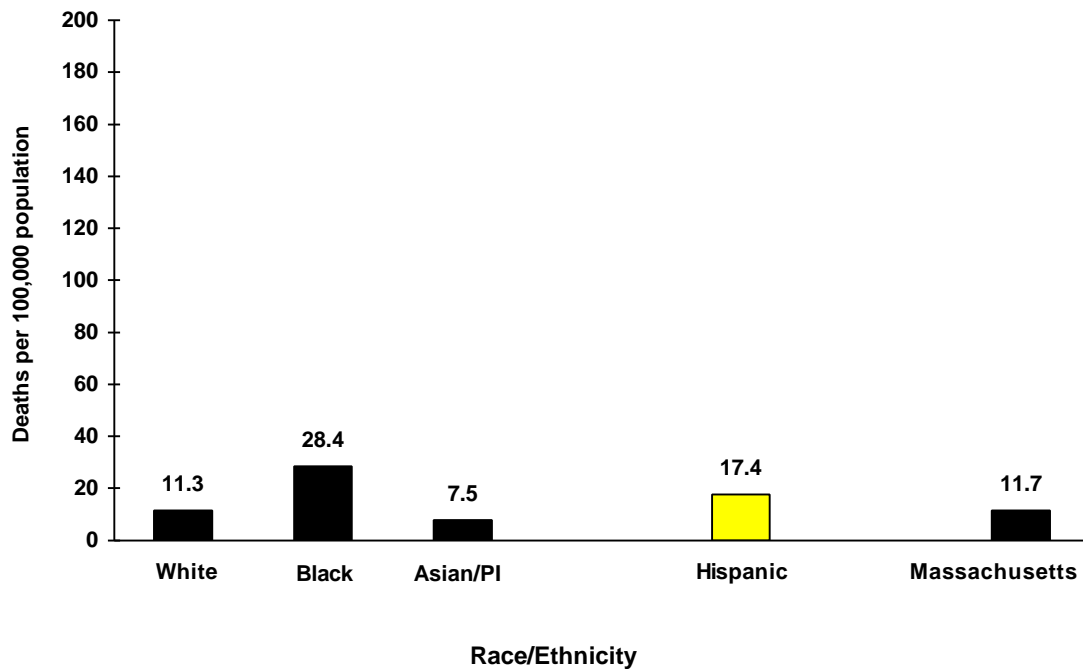


¹ Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ² Data Source: Death Certificates. * These data are not stable due to small numbers of events.

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Stroke
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

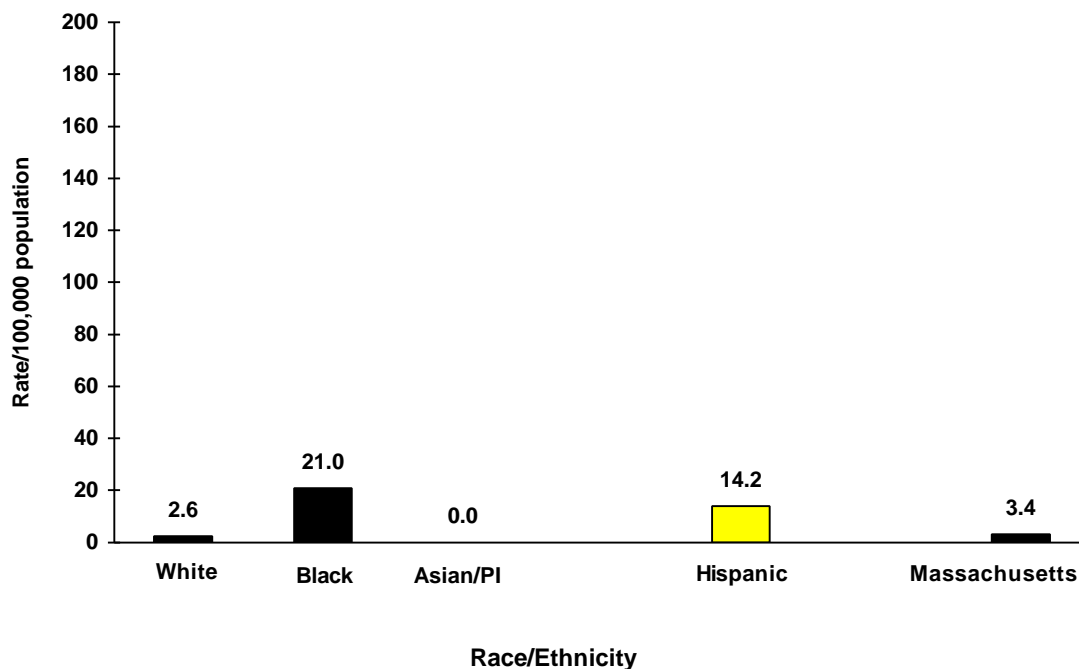


**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Diabetes
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

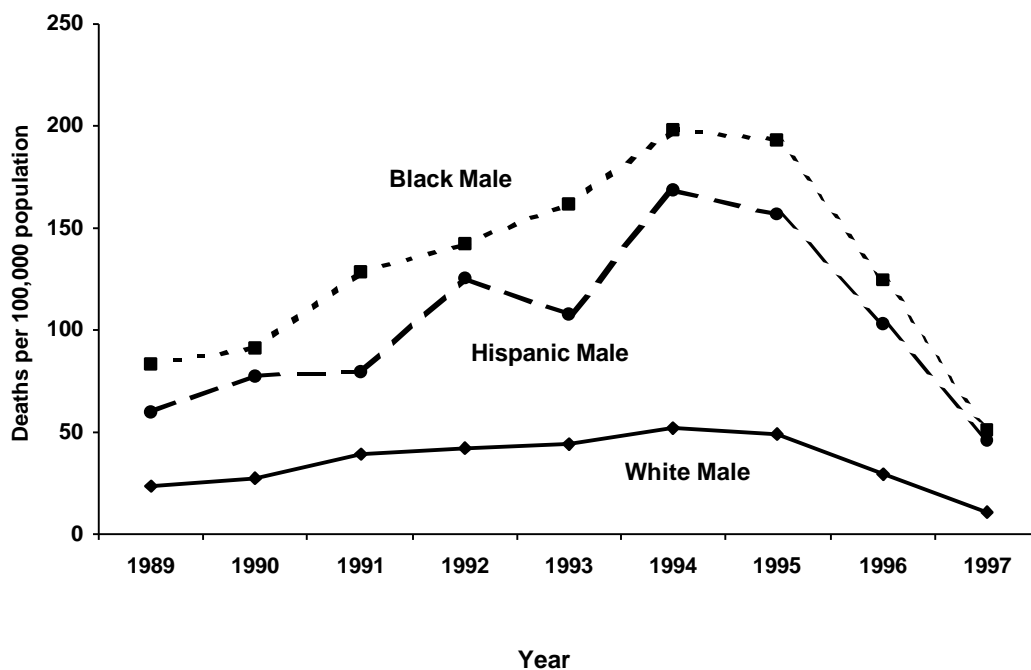


¹Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ²Data Source: Death Certificates

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for AIDS/HIV-related Diseases
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**

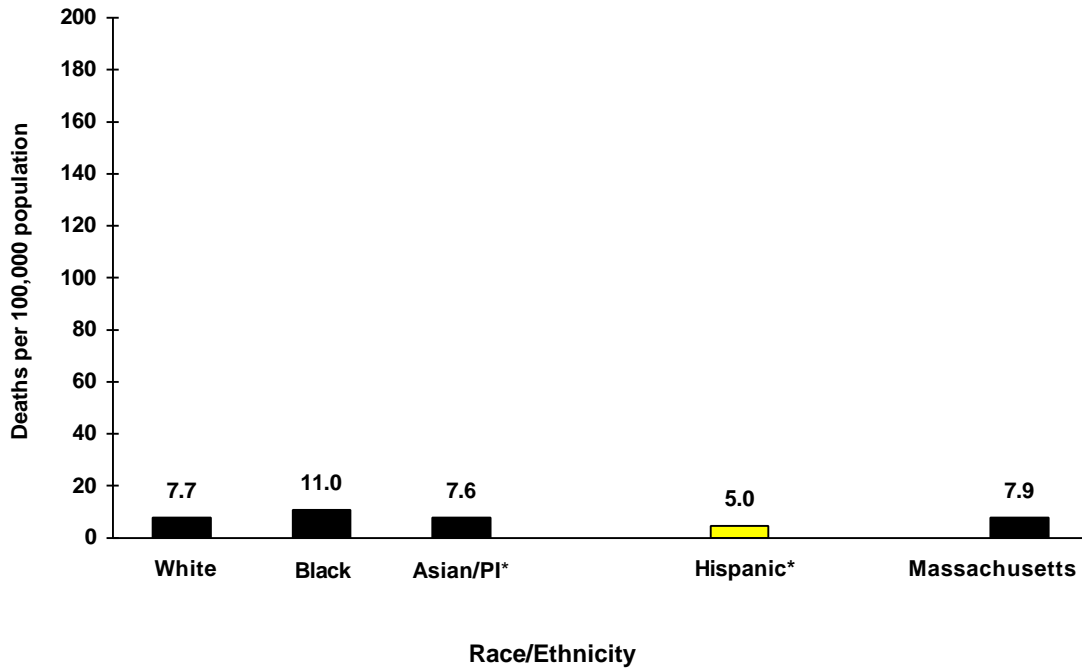


**Change in AIDS/HIV-related Death Rates For Men Ages 25-44
by Race//Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts 1989-1997**

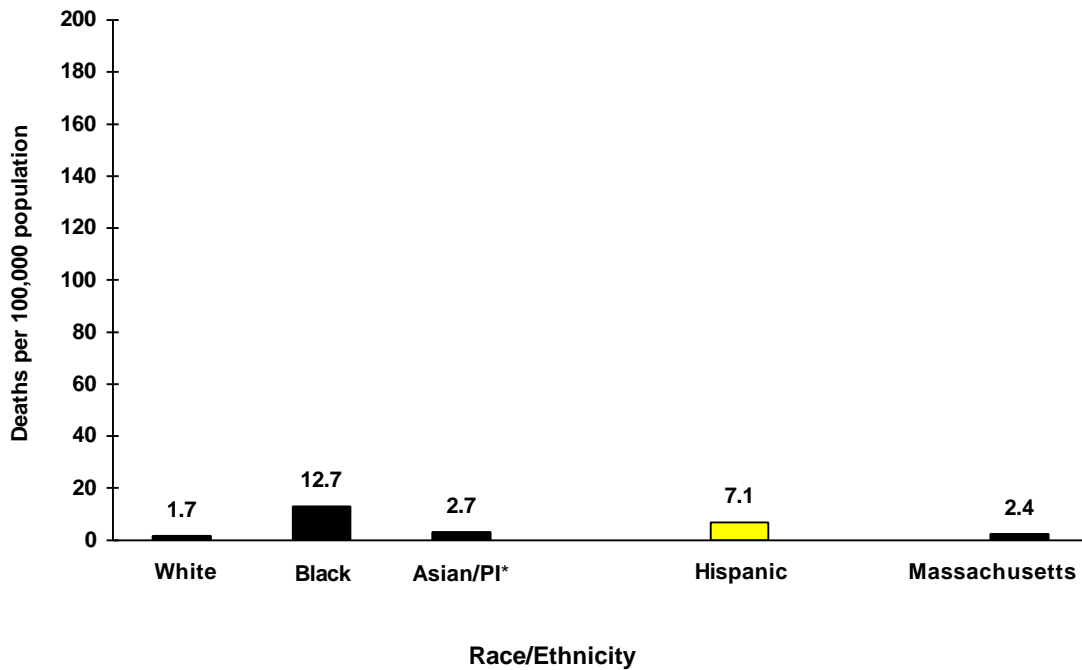


¹Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ²Data Source: Death Certificates

**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Motor Vehicle-related Injuries
By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**



**Age-adjusted Death Rates for Homicide
by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity¹, Massachusetts: 1997²**



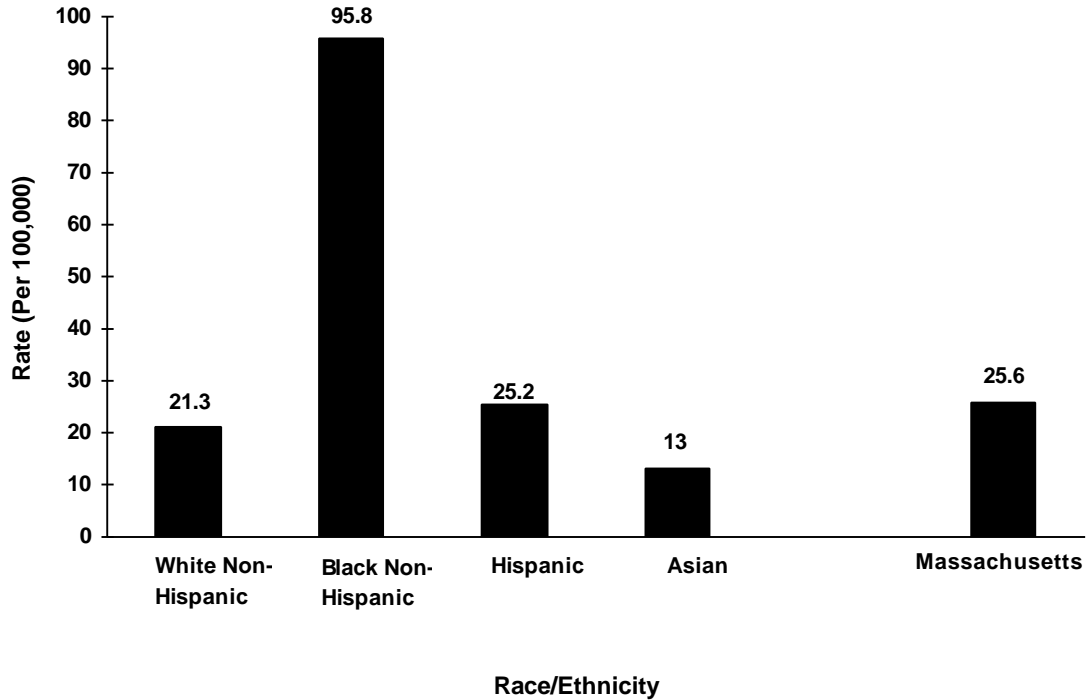
¹ Persons of Hispanic ancestry are also included in the race categories they select. ² Data Source: Death Certificates. * These data are not stable due to small numbers of events.

Hospital Discharge Data

A note about Hospital Discharge Data

Principal discharge diagnosis and race/Hispanic ancestry are from the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCF&P) uniform hospital discharge data base for fiscal year 1996 (also known as the “case-mix tape”). This file contains approximately 800,000 records for all discharges from short stay acute care hospital facilities in Massachusetts (except several Federal and state facilities). Race/ ethnicity is coded to one of six categories: White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian, or other. For further information contact DHCF&P (617-988-3151).

**Rate of Hospital Discharges for Hypertension¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1996²**

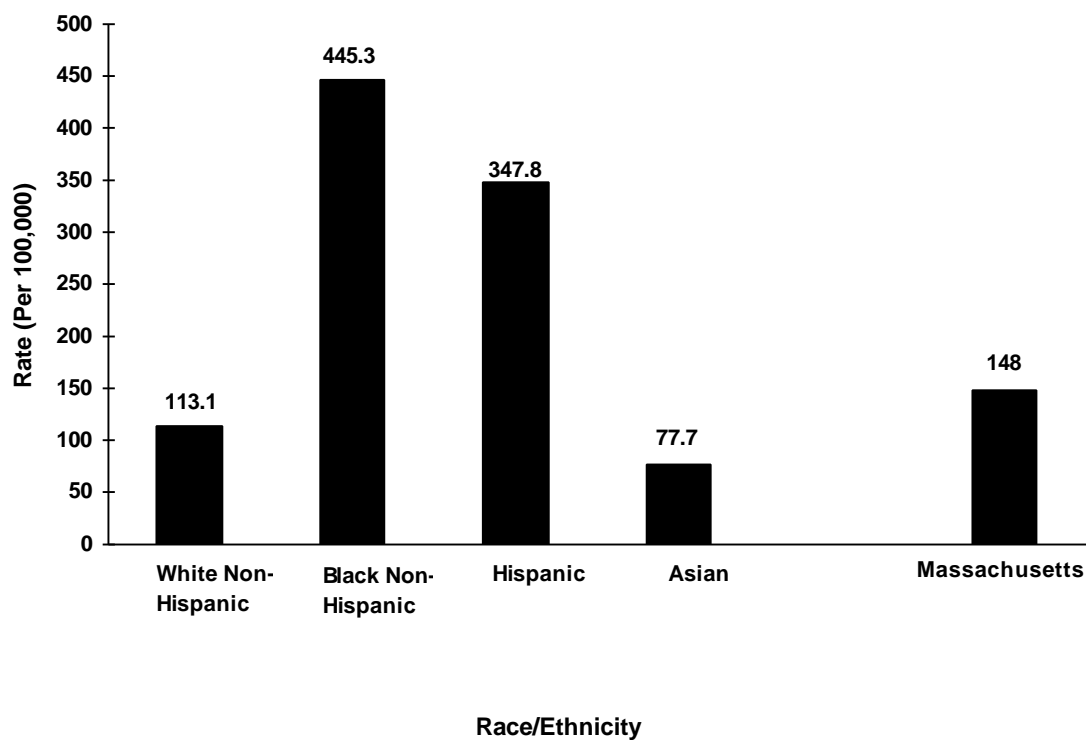


**Table of Rates of Hospital Discharges¹ for Other Selected Circulatory Disease By
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1996²**

<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	<i>Cerebrovascular Disease (ICD-9 Codes 430-438)</i>	<i>Major Cardiovascular Disease (ICD-9 Codes 390-448)</i>
White Non-Hispanic	321.2	1961.7
Black Non-Hispanic	248.0	1424.2
Hispanic	86.0	608.3
Asian	70.3	348.5
Massachusetts	310.8	1908.0

¹ Rate expressed per 100,000 persons of a given race/ethnicity. ² Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set.

**Rate of Hospital Discharges for Asthma¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1996²**



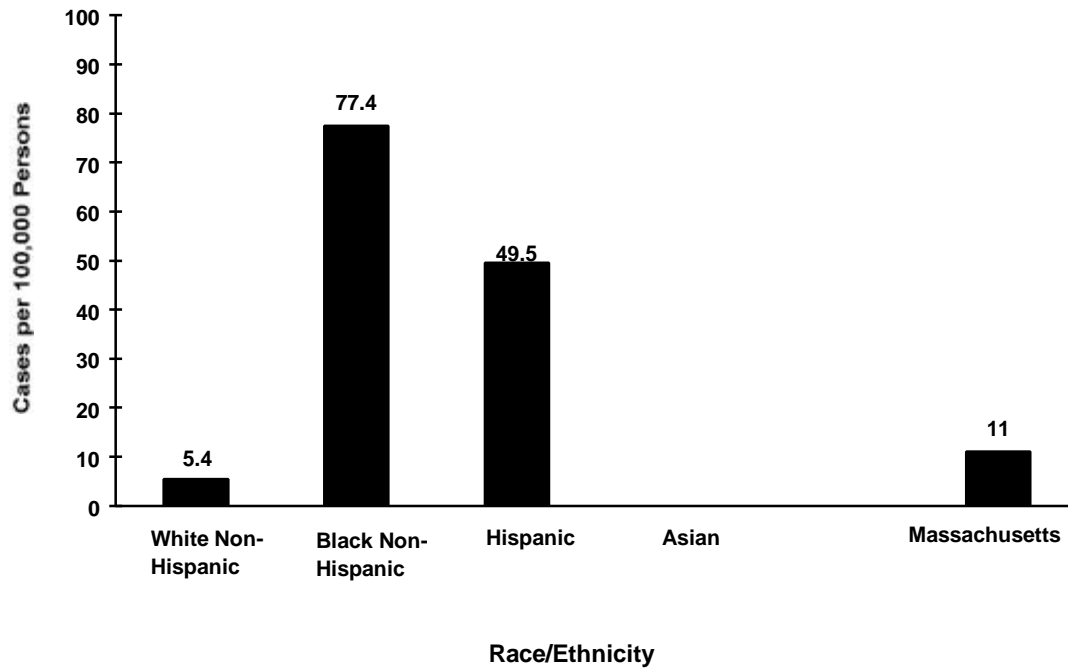
¹ Rate expressed per 100,000 persons of a given race/ethnicity. ² Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set.

AIDS Incidence Data

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AIDS Case Data. AIDS has been a reportable condition in MA since 1983. All healthcare providers are required by law to report CDC-defined AIDS to the MA Department of Public Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program (HASP) located at the State Laboratory Institute. Even though a greater proportion of actual AIDS cases are reported than many other communicable diseases, interpretation of AIDS case data is hampered by a small degree of non-reporting (10%-15%). In addition, not all cases are reported at the time of diagnosis, creating a reporting lag leading to an undercounting of recent cases (prior six months). Data on race/ethnicity are abstracted primarily from medical records. For further information, contact the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, H/ASP (617-983-6800)

**AIDS Incidence¹ by
Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997²**



**Table of AIDS Incidence Rates¹ by
Sex and Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, Massachusetts: 1997²**

<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
White Non-Hispanic	9.7	1.5	5.4
Black Non-Hispanic	98.9	57.2	77.4
Hispanic	74.3	25.0	49.5
Asian	*	*	*
Massachusetts	17.3	5.2	11.0

¹ Incidence defined as the number of new cases diagnosed during the year. Rate expressed per 100,000 persons of a given race/ethnicity. ² AIDS Surveillance Program. * No new reported AIDS cases of Asian race/ethnicity.

Risk Ratios

**MINORITY HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS:
RISK RATIOS OF BLACK, HISPANIC, AND ASIAN RATES TO WHITE RATES**

	BLACK	HISPANIC	ASIAN
Population, 1995 (%)¹	277,870 (4.5)	325,529 (5.3)	174,669 (2.8)
Perinatal indicators (1997)²			
Infant mortality (/1,000 births)	2.44	1.40	0.54
Teen birth rate (/1,000)	4.12	7.43	1.78
Adequacy of prenatal care %	0.79	0.79	0.86
Low birth weight, %	1.77	1.30	1.06
Early gestation. %	1.63	1.28	0.85
Cesarean section rate, %	1.04	0.88	0.76
Breast feeding, %	0.90	1.00	1.00
Smoking during pregnancy%	0.84	0.64	0.16
Publicly financed PNC, %	3.47	4.36	1.71
Mortality (1997)³			
Overall mortality rate	1.40	0.63	0.62
Heart disease death rate	1.22	0.54	0.42
Cancer death rate	1.24	0.43	0.65
Lung cancer	1.10	0.28	**
Breast cancer, female	1.08	**	**
Prostate cancer	2.52	**	**
Colon cancer	1.41	**	**
Stroke	1.44	0.65	1.10
Diabetes	2.51	1.54	**
Homicide	7.47	4.18	**
Suicide	**	**	**
Motor vehicle related	1.43	**	**
AIDS/HIV	8.08	5.46	--
Health status and risk behaviors: adults⁴			
Reporting fair/poor health %	1.18	2.00	0.82
Overweight %	1.36	1.18	0.36
Current smokers %	0.95	0.91	0.82
High blood pressure, %(1995, 1997)	1.14	0.82	0.50
High cholesterol, % (1995, 1997)	0.79	0.82	0.86
Self report, diabetes, %	1.75	1.00	--
Chronic drinking, % (1995, 1997)	1.00	0.50	**
Driving after drinking, % ('95, '97)	0.67	0.67	**
Binge drinking, %, (1995, 1997)	0.53	0.84	0.16

Health care access: adults⁴

No health insurance, %	2.13	2.88	1.63
Unchecked BP,% (1995, 1997)	0.75	1.75	4.00
Unchecked chol.,% (1995, 1997)	1.38	1.50	1.67
Women 40+, never had mammogram %	0.82	1.00	1.00
Women 18+ never had Pap Test, %	1.60	2.60	7.80
Persons 40+ never had Digital Rectal Exam % (1995, 1997)	1.16	1.58	2.26

Risk behaviors: high school students⁵

Current smoking, %	0.49	0.82	0.68
Current alcohol use, %	0.88	0.99	0.61
Current use of marijuana, %	0.89	1.01	0.36
Current use of inhalants,%	0.55	0.73	0.16
Current use of cocaine,%	0.08	0.40	0.04
Current use of tranquilizers%	0.55	0.45	0.70
Current use of narcotics, %	1.39	0.23	1.74

Risk behaviors: 7th and 8th grade students⁶

Current smoking, %	0.72	0.82	0.23
Current alcohol use, %	1.09	1.17	0.36
Current use of marijuana, %	1.43	1.79	0.11
Current use of inhalants,%	0.14	0.72	0.12
Current use of cocaine,%	--	0.67	--
Current use of tranquilizers%	0.25	0.47	0.17
Current use of narcotics, %	0.21	0.43	0.36

Admissions to publicly funded**Substance Abuse treatment programs, 1994**

Total admission rate, per 1,000 persons	2.79	3.29	0.15
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AIDS incidence

AIDS ⁷ incidence, 1995	6.60	6.97	**
AIDS incidence, 1996	8.38	8.32	**
AIDS incidence, 1997	14.33	9.17	**
AIDS incidence, males, 1995	5.15	5.89	**
AIDS incidence, males, 1996	6.73	6.86	**
AIDS incidence, males, 1997	10.20	7.66	**
AIDS incidence, females, 1995	12.88	11.24	**
AIDS incidence, females, 1996	15.04	14.04	**
AIDS incidence, females, 1997	38.13	16.67	

Sexually transmitted diseases, 1996 (/100,000)

syphilis, total	40.50	37.00	**
gonorrhea, total	37.25	13.63	**
chlamydia, total	16.63	14.34	**
syphilis, age 15-19, male	--	--	--
gonorrhea, age 15-19, male	45.56	27.78	**
chlamydia, age 15-19, male	21.21	15.79	**
syphilis, age 15-19, female	1.33	2.33	**
gonorrhea, age 15-19, female	44.85	14.71	**
chlamydia, age 15-19, female	11.73	10.05	**

Note: With the exception of mortality data, the race/Hispanic ethnicity categories are mutually exclusive. Mortality data presented here use the standard, national convention of including deaths to Hispanic persons in the appropriate race categories.

** Data not available or numbers too small to calculate risk ratio.

¹ Population data are from the Massachusetts Institute for Social and Economic Research (MISER). The data represent final estimates of 1995 data.

² Data on subgroups available.

³ Data on subgroups available, but limited by small numbers. All data presented here are age-adjusted rates per 100,000 persons. The overall mortality rate for Asians includes some deaths to persons of other races. Hispanics are included in race categories for mortality data.

⁴ Data from Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey for 1994-1998 unless otherwise indicated.

⁵ Data are from the public school risk survey performed by Health and Addictions, Inc. in 1996. Data given here are for grades 9-12. (Sample size: Black=875; Hispanic=786; Asian=219; White=1860)

⁶ Data are from the public school risk survey performed by Health and Addictions, Inc. in 1996. Data given here are for grades 7-8. (Sample size: Black=458; Hispanic=448; Asian=82; White=918)

⁷ AIDS data are the number of new AIDS cases diagnosed per 100,000 persons.

Technical Notes

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Age-Adjusted Rate

A procedure for adjusting rates, designed to minimize the distortions created by differences in age distribution when comparing rates for populations with different age compositions. This calculation is useful when comparing death rates from different populations or in the same population over time. For example, if one wished to compare the 1994 death rates between Hispanics and Whites, the age-adjusted formula would account for the fact that only 4% of Hispanic residents in Massachusetts were 65 years of age or older, whereas 14.5% of White Massachusetts residents were in this age group.

Age-adjusted rates are calculated by weighting the age-specific rates for a given year by the age distribution of a standard population. The weighted age-specific rates are then added to produce the adjusted rate for all ages combined. The 1940 U.S. population is used as the standard in this document for consistency with data published by NCHS.

Age-Specific Rate

Rates are for a specified age group. Age-specific rates are calculated by dividing the actual number of deaths in a given year by the estimated population in that age group for that year. The numerator and denominator refer to the same age group.

$$\text{Age-specific death rate (ages 25-34)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths among residents ages 25-34 in a given year}}{\text{Average (or midyear) population ages 25-34 in that year}} \times 100,000$$

ICD-9 Codes for Selected Causes of Death Presented in this Document

AIDS/HIV-related (042-044); Breast Cancer (Female, 174); Cancer (All, 140-208); Colon Cancer 153-154); COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, 490-496); Diabetes (Mellitus, 250); Heart Disease (390-398, 402, 404-429); Homicide (E960-E969); Lung Cancer (162); Motor Vehicle-related (E810-E825); Nephritis (580-589); Pneumonia/Influenza (480-486); Prostate Cancer (185); Septicemia (038); Stroke (Cerebrovascular Disease, 430-438).

*For further information on this packet, contact: Abbie Averbach,
Bureau of Health Statistics, Research and Evaluation, Massachusetts Department of Public Health*